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Dame Cleo Laine given freedom of borough

SEE **PAGE 25**

TV prof to give free lecture at city school

SEE **PAGE 22**

Taxpayers cough up for delayed Busway

BY KIRSTEN RAWLINS
kirsten.rawlins@mk-news.co.uk

A CONTROVERSIAL road widening scheme could now cost the taxpayer up to £580,000 because Milton Keynes Council has taken too long to complete it.

The £5.25million scheme on the A5130 Busway – to reduce congestion and incorporate traffic for the new Coachway – has so far been funded by The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA).

However, the project was supposed to be finished by tomorrow, which is when the funding will stop.

Completing the project by this time was described as 'high risk' in a report presented to members of the council's cabinet at a meeting last Tuesday with work not expected to be finished until the end of April.

This means the authority will have to foot the bill for the remaining work, estimated at between £240,000 and £580,000.

Paul Baines, of Deanforest Way, who has objected to the plans from the start, said: "I'm absolutely disgusted. The council promised that it wouldn't cost anything to the Milton Keynes taxpayers. How many front-line services could be saved with that money?"

Another Deanforest Way resident, Robin Coates, added: "It's disgraceful. Shame on those who, despite all the opposition, approved it knowing it wouldn't be finished in time.

"How many more mistakes is the council going to make – what with Secklow Gate bridge and the Coachway?

"There's been such a lack of consultation from the council as well. Nobody told us it was going to be extended for another month and nobody told us it was going to cost thousands more pounds. We were promised in the council chamber that this project would be completed on time. It's scandalous."

Disgusted: Paul Baines, who has objected to the plans from the start, alongside the unfinished Busway on the A5130

As previously reported by MK NEWS, residents were up in arms when the plans were unveiled as they had not been told about the project when they bought their homes in the area 12 months before.

A council spokesman said: "We aimed to complete the A5130 improvements by the end of March and the contractor is working weekends to finish the work as fast as possible.

"As work was restricted by severe winter weather, and the discovery of great crested newts meant a redesign to the scheme, some activity is now expected to continue until Easter."

The Busway scheme includes widening the road between the Northfield Roundabout and the new Brooklands City Street in the Eastern Expansion Area to allow bus lanes for the new Coachway. It also means extending redways and cycle paths and widening the bridge over Broughton Brook.

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A receptionist's chair at Best Western Moore Place Hotel in Milton Keynes is credited for seven employees becoming pregnant in the space of just a year. Elaine Ledster, Kim Gidley, Laura Burchill and Gina Ripley all had boys after sitting in the chair, Alyce Grisley is expecting a boy and Claire Fitchett and Seran Daines think their bumps will be wearing blue booties too.

Tube change led to hospital death of BBQ fire victim

BY KIRSTEN RAWLINS
kirsten.rawlins@mk-news.co.uk

A GRIEVING widow may seek legal action against a hospital which could have caused the death of her husband.

Colin Hill, 40, of Wavendon Gate, was set on fire when he walked past a lit barbecue with a bottle of light model aircraft fuel in his hand, which exploded, on June 30, 2009.

The father-of-one was admitted to Milton Keynes Hospital with survivable 17 to 18 per cent burns. Staff inserted a tube into his throat as a precaution to ensure he could breathe if his throat closed up because he had inhaled hot gases.

The same day he was transferred to Stoke Mandeville Hospital where his condition began to deteriorate.

Staff changed the tube in his throat but the new one was inserted into his oesophagus rather than his airway. As they had failed to empty his stomach this caused his lungs to flood.

Despite efforts to save him by Stoke Mandeville and Glenfield Hospital in Leicester, where he was later transferred, he died on July 16 – by which time his burns were mostly healed.

Colin's wife Lisa said: "I am still totally devastated and have been left numb. He was a devoted family man. I cannot believe this has happened. He is greatly missed by all who knew him."

An inquest into Mr Hill's death took place last week when the cause was determined as multiple organ failure, respiratory complications and vomiting and inhaling gastric content.

A spokesman for Stoke Mandeville Hospital said: "We would like to express our condolences to Mr Hill's family. The trust is aware of the narrative verdict given at the inquest at the end of last week and are considering any further actions we need to take."

Firefighters rescue two from flat blaze

TWO women had to be rescued after a fire broke out at a sheltered housing scheme.

Firefighters were called to Buckland Lodge in Netherfield at 7.41am on Saturday. The occupant of the ground-floor flat, where the fire started, was pulled to safety and taken to hospital suffering from the effects of smoke inhalation.

A second resident was rescued from her flat and she was treated at the scene by paramedics.

At the fire's peak there were 25 firefighters at the scene. The flat was destroyed and part of the building was damaged by smoke.

Three of the 24 flats are now out of action and the tenants have been temporarily moved to alternative accommodation.

A council spokesman said staff carried out a phased evacuation, adding: "We are extremely pleased with the calm, efficient manner in which they worked."

Woman warns of card theft at cash points

A BRAVE 62-year-old woman who foiled a thief who tried to steal her bank card has warned others to be on their guard.

The victim, who was too shaken to be named, was withdrawing money from a cash point outside Tesco in Wolverton on Friday at 11.30am.

She said: "I was aware of the man standing next to me and I was walking away when he called me back, saying there was something on the screen.

"I put my card back in but he distracted me and grabbed it."

She held onto the would-be thief by the arm, shouting for shoppers to help who then surrounded him.

She got her card back, but the man got away.

The offender was an Asian male in his mid-20s, about 5ft 5ins, slim, unshaven, with short dark hair and dressed in black.

Anyone with information can call police on 0845 8 505 505.

Child rapist loses unfair trial appeal

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

A 17-YEAR-OLD convicted of raping a four-year-old girl has failed to convince three top judges he did not get a fair trial.

The teenager from Dunstable, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, raped the girl in Emberton Park, Olney, in 2009.

He preyed on the young girl after she became separated from her mother and, when she was later found with her shorts undone, she told her parents what had happened.

He was arrested when his young victim spotted him in a supermarket nearly two weeks after the incident because he was wearing the same distinctive T-shirt.

He was found guilty of one count of rape by a jury in November last year.

His lawyers urged judges, sitting at London's Criminal Appeal Court, to overturn the conviction, arguing it was unsafe because of inconsistencies in the young victim's testimony.

They also argued the judge should have withdrawn the case from the jury because the little girl's evidence was undermined by other witness accounts.

But the judges dismissed the appeal, saying the jury was entitled to find the little girl's account accurate and that she had correctly identified her attacker.

Dismissing the appeal, Lord Justice Moses said the trial judge was right to leave the case for a jury to decide and that the verdict was safe.

He said: "This case serves to underline the propriety of relying upon the evidence of witnesses of such a young age.

"Despite some discrepancies, we are satisfied that the jury was entitled to rely upon the young girl's identification evidence."

Rugby cup is welcomed to home of Dons

MK DONS chairman Pete Winkelman and Northampton Saints owner Keith Barwell welcomed the Heineken Cup to stadiummk on Thursday.

It came ahead of Saints' quarter-final match in the competition against Ulster, which will be held at the stadium on Sunday, April 10.

Northampton were forced to find an alternative venue to their usual home at Franklin's Gardens due to competition rules specifying all stadiums hosting last-eight games must have a minimum capacity of 15,000. Their home since their formation in 1880 currently holds just 13,591.

Pete Winkelman said: "It's a fantastically exciting opportunity for the stadium, for Milton Keynes and it's a great pleasure to be able to help the Saints as well because it gives them a home game where they can increase their capacity."

Pictured with the Heineken Cup are Keith Barwell of the Saints and Pete Winkelman from MK Dons

Car plug points switched on

THE first electric vehicle charging points are up and running in the city centre.

The six charging points, which are on three posts that can serve two cars each, are next to the Iceland store in the retail district.

They are the first of 50 electric vehicle (EV) charging points to be funded under the Government's Plugged-in Places scheme. Milton Keynes, which will have 150 charging points over the next three years, was one of the first three places in the UK to receive this funding.

The opening of the charging points coincides with the launch of Nissan's LEAF, its flagship electric car, which is on display in Middleton Hall until Friday.

The EV charging points work with a swipe card and for a £50 membership fee people get one year's use of the charging posts and parking in those specific bays.

Alex Constantinides, Milton Keynes Council's assistant director of transport, said: "This is the start of delivering our innovative transport vision and strategy for now and the future, supporting both the council's and the Government's objectives to reduce carbon emissions."

Bowl booter counts cost of selling fakes

A CAR boot trader who sold counterfeit goods has been sentenced to 140 hours' community service.

Milton Keynes Bowl trader Jason Cox, 38, pleaded guilty to 11 offences under The Trade Marks Act after selling counterfeit computer games and jewellery.

On Friday, Milton Keynes magistrates sentenced him to eight weeks' imprisonment suspended for 12 months and ordered him to complete 140 hours' unpaid work and attend supervision for a year.

All counterfeit goods were forfeited and the court ordered costs of £1,947.70 be paid to Milton Keynes Council.

In August 2009, an undercover trading standards officer managed to buy counterfeit Nintendo DS games from a stall run by Cox, of Harvey Road, Bedford.

A search of his stall after his arrest uncovered more Nintendo DS games along with a quantity of branded jewellery in the names of Pandora, Links of London and Tiffany & Co which were also fake.

Karen Ford, head of trading standards for MK Council, said: "We take a zero tolerance approach to sellers of counterfeit goods operating in Milton Keynes."

Call Trading Standards on 08454 04 05 06.

MK NEWS is proud to be the truly local newspaper for Milton Keynes and the surrounding areas. We provide the most widely read local newspaper for our readers and advertisers and are constantly looking at new ways to improve our service. If you have feedback for us, please contact anyone listed below

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We also deliver an additional 8,000 copies each week into public buildings, offices, industrial areas, bars, restaurants and shops for people to read that may not live locally and receive a copy at home.

According to the latest independent, audited readership figures, MK NEWS has a weekly readership in excess of 130,000 adults and this figure is growing as we add on more copies to our distribution across MK.

We aim to deliver the best possible service to our readers but if you have any questions or concerns about distribution please feel free to contact our team on the number listed above. Our deliverers earn top rates of pay. If you'd like to join our team please contact the distribution department on the number above.

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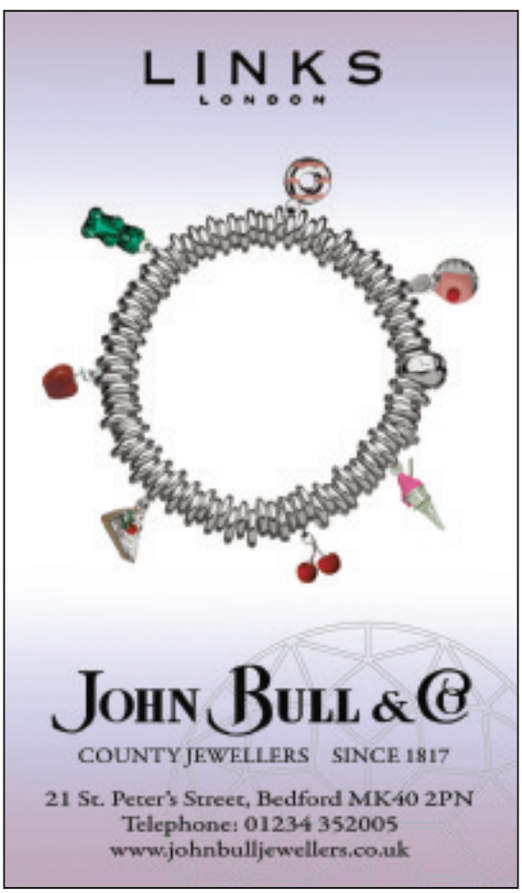

MK LETTERS

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E-mail story old hat

SIR – It seems that both the local and national press have taken great pride in focusing the minds of the public on a silly joke e-mail which I forwarded on to others, way back in 2008.

The attempt to suggest that I have cruelly mocked residents and have been poking fun at deprivation, however, couldn't be further from the truth.

I am certain that I am one of many millions of people across the country who regularly tune into such programmes as Little Britain, Shameless and other such programmes, which create entertainment based on common stereotypes.

There seems to be an obsession that we should live in a sterile and politically correct society.

What would life be like if we couldn't laugh at ourselves?

I am certain that there are some people who might take offence to what is a silly e-mail that has been doing the rounds for years – long before it was sent to me.

Many people have already been in touch with me about this matter and share my disappointment that the biggest story of the week is an e-mail that was sent three years ago.

I would urge your readers to take sight of a copy of the e-mail (which can be readily sourced when typing Milton Keynes Earthquake 2008 into an internet search engine).

Edward Butler-Ellis

Inconvenience store

SIR – A letter in last week's issue of MK NEWS claims that a new super-sized supermarket would be good for Stony Stratford.

Perhaps the convenience of not needing to go to Wolverton or elsewhere for some items would be welcome, but not at the expense of the inevitable loss of trade for high street shops or the – also inevitable – gridlock for the narrow Stony Stratford roads.

As Silver Street is the only access road for Cofferidge Close it simply cannot sustain the increase in traffic necessary to keep such a large supermarket viable.

Stony Stratford may be a town, not a village, but it is small, compact and very old. The town's narrow roads are already at their capacity at busy times, especially Silver Street, and would not cope with a continual massive increase, the majority of which would be there solely for the supermarket, not the town itself.

John Page
Ousebank Way, Stony Stratford

Doctor's diagnosis best

SIR – As residents of Two Mile Ash since 1984 we wish to add our concern about Milton Keynes Council's plans for the centre of the estate.

The centre of Two Mile Ash has already lost 20 horse chestnut trees to increase parking spaces and, in the current climate of concern for the environment, it would seem foolish to have seven beautiful maple trees cut down unnecessarily.

The plan for the centre produced by Dr Chris Gossop allows for extra parking spaces together with retention of the trees and improvements to the area, such as traffic calming adjacent to the two schools.

We earnestly request that both MK Council and the parish council reconsider their plans and adopt Dr Gossop's suggestions.

Pat and David Gray
Two Mile Ash

Branching out

SIR – A story in your paper last week caught my attention.

It seems that Aldi supermarket cut away a lot of shrubbery that blocked the view of its store in Milton Keynes from passing traffic.

The Parks Trust took legal action and its chief executive David Foster took 'a dim view of the store's actions'.

The matter was settled out of court at a cost to Aldi of £44,000.

However, to a multi-national supermarket chain that is merely a few hours profit and it has achieved exactly what it set out to do.

The area has been replanted and it's pure speculation on my part, but I suspect that the new planting won't obscure the view of the store from passing traffic.

R E Lee
Conniburrow Boulevard

Tools of the tirade

SIR – Regarding your articles on a play area in Far Holme being closed and inappropriate landscaping maintenance (MK NEWS, March 23).

It seems that the only tools contractors use are strimmers, chainsaws and shredders.

The area around Serjeants Green, Neath Hill, has had the landscaping decimated by these 'tools'.

Hedges have been removed. Slopes which were covered in evergreen bushes have been strimmed and children now play over the slopes throwing stones at cars, urinating and leaving litter.

The grassed area is taken over by groups with bikes who scream and shout (not always nice language). Playing now seems to be shouting, screaming and taking photos on mobile phones.

I do believe that children should be able to play out of doors. However, I'm not sure that play areas maintained by the local council are the most appropriate use of space and resources.

There is no supervision and these children have not been shown by their parents how to consider how their play might affect local residents.

Perhaps the time has come to do away with play areas and for children to play in their gardens, which most properties in Milton Keynes have. But this would mean that parents would have to take some notice of what their children are doing!

With two schools, day centre, local shops and doctors' surgery, we already have to accept that cars will be parked and block the road during the day. Then we have to put up with the anti-social behaviour of the children in the evenings and at weekends.

A V Shearman
Carpenter Court, Neath Hill

Free English lessons

SIR – With regards to your front page story last week about the burned-out family.

While at a human level one can have every sympathy with this family, I would be interested in knowing how well they speak and comprehend English.

If they had a good command of English one would have thought they would have been able to contact the utility companies to get connected, the Food Bank to get food, Freecycle to get free furniture and clothing and the authorities for an emergency loan to get money to buy cheap second-hand furniture, clothing and other items.

Unfortunately, free lessons for people who do not have English as their first language are no longer available and, I would suggest, stories like this show that this leads to people not being able to help themselves.

Free English language lessons should be reinstated for people who do not have English as a first language.

Paul Griffiths
Sent by e-mail

AV information needed

SIR – In response to some of the letters on the altervative vote (AV) that have appeared in your paper.

The Lib Dems cannot fulfil on their promises because they did not win the election outright.

They are in a coalition. But at least they are forcing the Tories to compromise on many of their worst policies.

I think we should give an alternative voting system a try. But I would like to be given more information on how it would work.

Don Allison
Newport Pagnell

Scooter Samaritans

SIR – Can I please say thank you to the people that stopped and helped me after I fell.

My disabled scooter went over where builders had left a path in a mess at the new estate in Newport Road.

I was trying to turn my scooter round as there was no dropped kerb for me to get off the path. However, the path was not wide enough to reverse and my scooter went backwards down a ditch.

I ended up under the scooter and could not get up. It took five people to pull me free and help me up – I had dislocated my shoulder and hurt my hands a knees.

I am very grateful to all the kind people that helped me.

Grace Quinn
Kersey, Stantonbury

■ SIR – With reference to your web article about a car accident in Stantonbury Fields headlined 'Woman injured in two-car smash'.

I was the unfortunate person in the Landrover and I would like to thank the lady and gentleman who helped me at the scene before I was taken to hospital

I have not had contact with them and would like to give them my thanks.

Robery Nutt
Sent by e-mail

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The new crematorium under construction at Crownhill

Chimney missing on new crem plan

BY KIRSTEN RAWLINS
kirsten.rawlins@mk-news.co.uk

MILTON Keynes Council is believed to be seeking legal advice after surveyors forgot to include a chimney on plans for the city's new crematorium.

The new £6.2million Oak Chapel at Crownhill Crematorium is due to be completed by June and would have come in under budget if a second chimney had not been left off.

MK NEWS understands the council is now seeking legal advice on recovering the cost of putting in the chimney from the building surveyors who forgot to include it – an estimated £62,000.

Councillor Liz Campbell said: "It really beggars belief that the council's contracted surveyors could actually forget to include something as vital as a chimney for a crematorium in its specifications to builders. You do begin to wonder what planet these people live on and just what is happening to taxpayers' money at a time when money is scarce and services are being cut."

The chimney would be used as a back up stack should the main flue fail.

A council spokesman said: "As well as a main chimney, the new Oak Chapel at Crownhill Crematorium has a back up stack.

"This stack, although specified by the architect, was apparently omitted by surveyors on documents. This was quickly spotted and put right.

"The contractor has provided the extra chimney. This has added to the cost of the contract, but as the chimney was originally planned for, the project will still come in on budget.

"The additional amount is less than one per cent of the cost of the project. The build was not delayed by the change."

Police patrol closed kids' play area

POLICE have been patrolling the area outside a play area which was closed due to antisocial behaviour.

The play area in Far Holme, near Southside Lane, Milton Keynes Village, was closed last Tuesday following complaints from residents to the council and police.

A meeting took place on Friday between the police, council, parents, residents and children to discuss the future of the play area, which will remain closed until further notice.

Sam Crooks, ward councillor for Middleton, said: "The way kids work is that if they see somewhere closed they will move on to somewhere else.

"The trouble is they move around in groups, so if one climbed over the fence there's a risk a lot of them would."

A council spokesman said: "We are still in discussions with local residents, the site developer, the police and other partners to try and reach an amicable solution."

Cops appeal after underpass assault

A WOMAN was sexually assaulted on Sunday.

The victim was in the area of Redmoor, close to the junction of the V6 Grafton Street and the H8 Standing Way, at 7.20pm.

A man was walking in the opposite direction and the woman was attacked in the underpass. He then ran off towards Coffee Hall along the V6.

The man is described as a dark European with short, brown hair, 5ft 4ins and about 35 years old. He was wearing a black zip-up jumper and light coloured, possibly white, jeans.

Police are appealing for any witnesses that were in the area, or anyone who may have information, to call them on 0845 8 505 505. Alternatively they can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Sign up for charity run

APPLICATIONS are now being invited for the 13th annual NSPCC Milton Keynes Half Marathon.

Last year's event attracted 1,700 runners from across the country and raised £50,000 for the children's support charity. This year the 13-mile race will take place on Sunday, July 17 at 10am.

Fundraising manager Sally Phipps said: "This is a fantastic opportunity to start thinking about getting fit for the summer. We need funds to support children who need someone to turn to at difficult times of their life."

Companies are also encouraged to enter employees in the team challenge.

Apply online at www.mkhalfmarathon.org.uk, call 01908 328060, e-mail mkhalfmara@nspcc.org.uk, or write to NSPCC Appeals Milton Keynes Half Marathon, First Floor, Ash House, Woodlands Business Park, Linford Wood, Milton Keynes, MK14 6ET.

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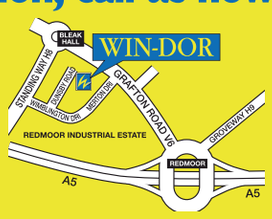

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Two injured in two-car pile-up

TWO people were injured in a two-car smash in Stantonbury Fields on Wednesday night.

Firefighters freed a woman after crews from Broughton and Great Holm were called to the incident in Soskin Drive shortly before 9pm.

A man in the other vehicle was able to get out before they arrived and both were taken to Milton Keynes Hospital.

City wasteland to be transformed

Homes, shops, offices and hotel get green light from Government

BY ADAM GRINSELL

adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

WORK on a huge city centre development will begin next year after getting the thumbs up from the Government.

Four hundred homes, a 200 bed hotel, retail and office space will be built on wasteland between Childs Way, Avebury Boulevard and Witan Gate in CMK. At its highest point the development will be ten to 12 stories high – roughly the same size as the buildings at the nearby The Hub.

The project required Government approval for a change of detail when the initial plans to create a higher-density, 650 apartment scheme on the site became unviable after the housing market crash.

The site is owned by Milton Keynes Partnership (MKP), the local arm of the national Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), and will now be marketed to developers with work potentially starting on the site in early 2012 and completed in 2014/15.

Paul Spooner, executive director for HCA Midlands, said: "We have worked closely with Milton Keynes Council to propose a new development that continues to support the city's growth aspirations and are pleased to be able to move forward to start bringing on board a developer partner."

MKP has worked with council officers in drafting a revised development brief for the site and will undertake further consultation with stakeholders before releasing it to potential developers.

This could be one of the final projects worked on by MKP as its winding up has now moved a step closer.

On Thursday, Milton Keynes Council formally decided to take on MKP responsibilities, such as determining planning applications in the eastern and western expansion areas.

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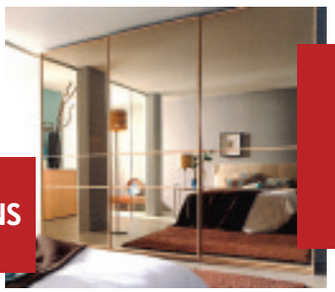

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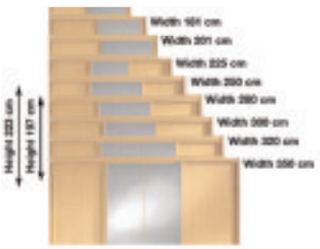

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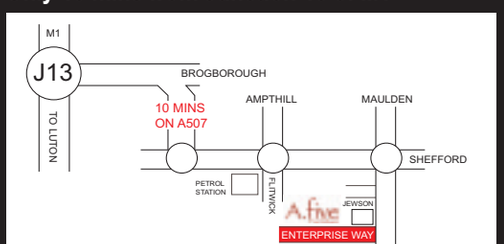

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UNISON MK Area branch members join the spending cuts protest march through London on Saturday

200 join London anti-cuts march

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

TWO hundred people from the city joined about 400,000 protesting against the Government spending cuts on Saturday.

Unions and other organisations took to the streets of London in a march organised by the Trades Union Congress, which ended in a massive rally in Hyde Park.

Members from the UNISON Milton Keynes Area Branch, MK Coalition of Resistance and others made the trip in four coaches to add their voices to the crowds calling for an alternative to the cuts.

Janis Pidgeon, the UNISON branch secretary, said: "UNISON's belief is that the slash and burn cuts we are facing at the moment are completely unnecessary and we think there are other ways this could have been handled.

"After the war we were in far higher deficit, but back then we built houses and hospitals but now they are telling us we can't do anything other than what we are now.

"The poorest and most vulnerable are being hit by this."

The peaceful march was marred by violent activists who clashed with police in Oxford Circus, Piccadilly and Trafalgar Square.

Thousands of pounds of damage was caused, 201 people were arrested and 149 charged over the violence.

Conniburrow resident Pauline Wallis was one of the many individuals who made the trip from Milton Keynes and said the clashes detracted from what the protest was really about.

She said: "They were not doing it on our behalf - we were there marching to get someone to listen to us.

"There were so many people there - it was just awe-inspiring to see families, disabled people, nurses, everyone marching together."

City MP to blog in oppostion to AV

A CITY MP will speak out against the alternative vote system every day in the run up to the referendum.

Mark Lancaster will add another argument to his new blog against the UK adopting the alternative vote system (AV), which he sees as flawed and unfair, every day until the May 5 referendum.

The Milton Keynes North MP, who will also be tweeting on the subject, believes the current first past the post system is more stable, retaining the one person, one vote principle.

The current system is the most widely used across the world, whereas AV is used only in Papua New Guinea, Fiji and Australia, with residents of the later wanting to scrap it.

Mr Lancaster argues introducing AV would tarnish our democracy, giving weight to electoral losers and potentially giving way to extreme parties.

He said: "For me, one particular analogy demonstrates why AV is unfair.

"A person who comes third in the 100-metre dash can end up with the gold medal. This is simply unfair."

In the month run-up to the referendum, visit Mr Lancaster's new blog at marklancastermp.wordpress.com and follow him on Twitter @marklancastermp.

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Shut bridge cost is triple repair bill

BY KIRSTEN RAWLINS
kirsten.rawlins@mk-news.co.uk

THE cost of keeping a city centre bridge closed will be nearly three times the original repair bill.

At a cabinet meeting last Tuesday it was revealed keeping Seclow Gate bridge closed until it is repaired will cost £631,794. This is almost triple the minimum repair costs of £215,000.

Milton Keynes Council claimed the cost of renting scaffolding to support the Grade II-listed structure, which was damaged by a fire in the market below, was £390,000 at the beginning of March.

However, the cost for using scaffolding until the bridge is repaired in July – 17 months after it was closed – will be £450,036, while the traffic management bill will come to a total of £181,758.

These figures, which are based on an average cost of renting scaffolding at £26,348 a month charged on daily basis, were released in response to a deputation presented to a full council meeting earlier this month.

It was presented by Linda Inoki, leader of Xplain, a city interest group for quality development, who said: "The council's incompetence has done far more damage than the fire itself.

"It's a scandalous waste of money. Back last year they knew that the repair estimate was a fraction of that figure and that insurance would cover all the costs. But they did nothing.

"Now, after all the delays, MK taxpayers will probably end up paying a large part of the bill. That money could have gone towards libraries, nursery schools or other important services that are being axed."

An internal council investigation into the prolonged closure of Secklow Gate bridge continues.

Scaffolding securing Secklow Gate bridge is set to cost £450,036

> The council's incompetence has done far more damage than the fire itself
>
> **– Linda Inoki, leader of city interest group Xplain**

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Paris bike ride boost

A PENSIONER'S 300-mile cycle trip to Paris got a boost as he passed by Bletchley Park on Friday.

Dr Mark Baldwin, long-time supporter of Bletchley Park and expert on the Enigma machine, is aiming to be in the French capital today.

The 66-year-old, who started the ride in Northampton on Friday, is raising funds for Bletchley Park.

To sponsor him visit www.justgiving.com/Mark-Baldwin0.

Cheque this out: Simon Greenish, CEO of Bletchley Park, John Cutler, Dr Mark Baldwin and Sarah Price, sales consultant at Redrow, which gave £250 to the charity bike ride

Dementia home saved

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

A CARE home for dementia sufferers has been saved at the 11th hour.

The 34-bedroom scheme in Bletchley, which will provide round-the-clock, on-site support for people with the affliction, was put in jeopardy after a housing association involved in the project, which has not been named, pulled out at the last minute.

After a four-week negotiation, housing provider Grand Union Housing Group (GUHG) stepped in to save the £3.2million scheme with days to spare. Work is now due to start soon and is expected to be completed in 2013.

GUHG chief executive Alan Humphreys said: "I am delighted we were able to step in to save this important development. Had we not been able to proceed so quickly a £2.4million grant from the Homes and Communities Agency could have been lost.

"In the week pressure groups have called for the Government to fund widespread screening for dementia we believe this scheme, and the services it will provide, will be vital to help sufferers and their families in the Milton Keynes area."

The news has been welcomed by Milton Keynes Council.

Lynda Bull, corporate director for community wellbeing, said: "We are so pleased GUHG is becoming a partner in this innovative development.

"Together, we can deliver a new and exciting development in Milton Keynes that will support some of our older people."

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PCSO Nigel Barton has been patrolling Netherfield for four years and says 'it has come a long way'

It's nice in Netherfield

CRIME in Milton Keynes fell by 4.3 per cent last year, meaning there were 1,045 fewer victims of offences including burglary and vehicle crime.

However, there are still some people who believe the city's more deprived estates are crime hotspots. As reported in last week's MK NEWS, a cannabis factory was discovered at a family home in Netherfield – the city's worst estate on MK Council's 2010 Social Atlas. Reporter KIRSTEN RAWLINS visited the estate to talk to residents about what life is really like.

IN THE past Netherfield has been plagued by problems including antisocial behaviour and drinking in the streets.

However, residents say the situation has improved – all thanks to the police and their work with the estate's close-knit community.

One resident Jan Ketchion, 54, is proud to have lived on Netherfield for 20 years.

She said: "I've never had a problem since I've lived here and the houses are really nice. The core population of Netherfield have been living here a long time."

And Brian Fitzwilliam, of the Netherfield Residents' Association, said he believes 75 per cent of the people who live on the estate love it.

But many of the younger residents claim the estate is unsafe and some have even witnessed crimes.

Craig Hayward, 17, said: "I don't feel safe, my house has been burgled before and there's a lot of gangs round here."

PCSO Nigel Barton has been patrolling the estate for four years and says it is not as bad as people believe it to be.

He said: "It's got a bad reputation from the past, but it has come a long way."

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MKNEWS BRIEFS

Club to become pub

AN APPLICATION by a national pub chain to move into Newport Pagnell was given the go-ahead at a planning meeting on Thursday.

The empty former Unionist Club in St John Street will now be taken over by JD Wetherspoon. A revamp of Shenley Church End local centre was also given the green light at the meeting.

Free PCs for OAPs

OAPS can get a free loan computer and web cam as part of a new pilot scheme.

MK Council is looking for about 200 residents over 65 years old to receive the equipment as part of an 18-month study on personal computer technology being used to aid continued independent living. To apply call 01908 691249.

Campbell Park move

A PUBLIC meeting was due to take place last night to discuss plans to move Campbell Park into the CMK Town Council parish boundary. The public consultation deadline is May 31.

Flasher pleads guilty

A MAN who hid in a bush before sexually assaulting a woman pleaded guilty to three sex offences at Milton Keynes Magistrates' Court.

Mohammad Islam, 21, from Mullion Place, Fishermead, will be sentenced on April 12 for sexual assault and two counts of indecent exposure.

Local cricketer killed in crash

BY KIRSTEN RAWLINS
kirsten.rawlins@mk-news.co.uk

A CITY cricketer was killed after his motorcycle hit a crash barrier.

Father-of-two Shaun Jarvis, 38, of Cowdry Close, Woolstone, who regularly played for MK City, Great Linford and North Bucks Ambulance cricket teams, died last Sunday.

It is believed the air conditioning and refrigeration engineer hit the crash barrier on the A41 in Hatfield, Hertfordshire, after a police officer indicated for him to pull over.

This week his ex-wife Paula, who moved to England with Zambia-born Shaun in 1999, paid tribute to him. The couple had two children Keegan, 12, and Tayla, nine.

Killed: Shaun Jarvis

She said: "Shaun was a kind, considerate and approachable person, who loved spending time with his children - they were his world. He had so many friends and was loved by all who knew him. We will all miss him terribly but are comforted in knowing that he is resting peacefully."

Shaun's funeral will be held at Crownhill Crematorium, Milton Keynes, on Friday at noon.

The incident was referred to the Independent Police Complaints Commission, but was dismissed.

Officers are still appealing for the driver of a grey Peugeot people carrier which stopped briefly at the scene to come forward.

Investigating officer, PC Matt Hollingsworth, said: "I would like to stress that the driver of this vehicle is not in any trouble at all, we are hoping that he may have witnessed something that may help us with our investigations."

Anyone with information should call Hertfordshire Police on 0845 33 00 222.

Council to consult on closure of nurseries

A CONSULTATION will be held on the future of the city's council-run nurseries.

At a meeting of Milton Keynes Council's cabinet last Tuesday, members backed the recommendation by the scrutiny committee that closing the eight nurseries should be a last resort.

The meeting was attended by more than 20 worried parents, nursery workers and parish councillors.

Annette Pakes, whose child attends Little Chestnuts in Bletchley, said: "It is not just a nursery, it is a major part of our community. For our own personal reasons, private childcare just isn't an option."

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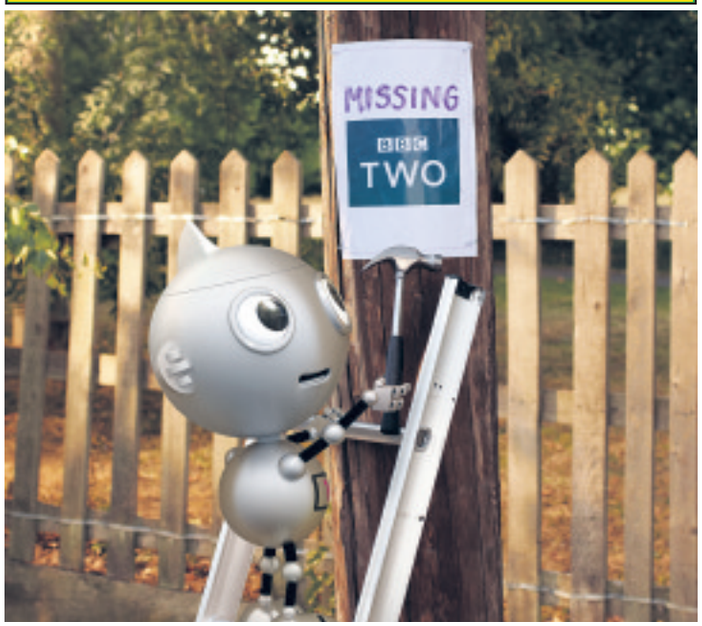

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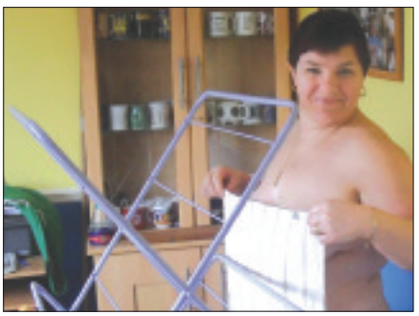


Above: Trish Coleman. Right: Sue Titchmarsh

THESE are the lucky finalists who have got a date with the cast of Calendar Girls.

MK NEWS teamed up with Milton Keynes Theatre and Serenity Boudoir Photography to offer the 12 entrants with the most votes in our exclusive Calendar Girls competition the chance to enjoy an evening of VIP treatment.

On Monday they will get to see the hit show Calendar Girls and meet the cast for drinks, when the overall winner, who will be treated to a spa day at Champneys Henlow, will be picked.

Dozens of wannabe Calendar Girls (and boys!) dared to bare for the competition and many of them has their pictures taken by husband and wife team

Clockwise from above: Carol Richard-Jones, Ann Marie Moseley, Donna Sawford, the staff at Abbey Hill Hotel

winners

John and Debbie McHayle at Serenity Boudoir Photography (www.serenityboudoir. co.uk).

John said: "It was a fantastic experience for all involved. Everyone was so keen and just threw themselves into the spirit of Calendar Girls.

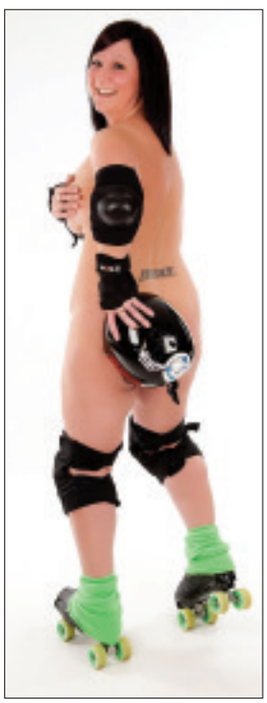
"All we can do is thank everyone that took part. It was great and they had us in fits of laughter the whole time."

Calendar Girls, starring Lynda Bellingham, Jennifer Ellison, Trudie Goodwin and Danielle Lineker, returned to Milton Keynes Theatre on Monday and tickets are selling fast.

To book, call 0844 871 7652, or visit www.ambassadortickets.com/miltonkeynes.

Above:
Frances Dell

Left:
Shelly Shulman



Middle left:
Samantha Seaton

Centre:
Donna Williams

Right:
Emma Ferguson

Left:
Jan Freeman

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Tribunal told of safari park's animal issues

BY ADAM THOMPSON
editor@mk-news.co.uk

ESCAPED elephants, raw sewage in a monkey enclosure and sea lions with chronic eye problems were just some of the claims made by an ex-employee of Woburn Safari Park at an employment tribunal.

Paul O'Donoghue, 32, appearing at the hearing in Bedford last week was alleging constructive dismissal after leaving the company in December 2009.

Dr O'Donoghue, who represented himself, claimed raising concerns of health and safety and animal welfare with management at the park put him in a situation where he was forced to resign.

The wildlife biologist also alleged that management didn't inform the local authority – then Bedfordshire County Council – that an elephant had escaped from its pen and that himself, the staff and park visitors were put in 'imminent danger'.

Abayomi Alemoru, representing the park, alleges Dr O'Donoghue's claims are unlawful and took issue that they were submitted after his employment had finished.

Dr Paul O'Donoghue is claiming constructive dismissal from Woburn Safari Park where the wildlife biologist claims animals had health issues and staff were put in danger

Giving evidence Dr O'Donoghue said: "Myself and others were put in imminent danger because of health and safety at the park. I was employed to carry out health and safety and animal welfare duties.

"When an elephant escaped, it wasn't reported to the local authority and for me it was the final straw.

"The fence it was kept in was a fence you would keep sheep in - it was about three to five feet tall.

"An elephant would not, and did not, have any trouble breaking through the fence.

"Sea lions had chronic eye problems with ulcers on their eyes. This reduced staff that saw them to tears.

"Raw sewage was flowing into the monkey enclosure from the toilets and staff had to clean up human waste and used tampons from the enclosure."

Dr O'Donoghue, who now lives in Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, also revealed that he and a colleague almost came to blows after he pointed out that inexperienced staff were left looking after a pride of lions.

The tribunal, which was due to last three days, was adjourned until June after issues with witness statements caused it to be delayed.

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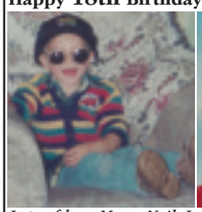
love Mum, Dad,
Julia, Paul
and all the family
xxx

CRAIG JONES
Happy 26th Birthday
29th March 2011
Love Mum, Dad, Nan, Stevie, Chloe, Darren, Kelly, Letitia, Ellis, Annabelle, Harry and the rest of the family xxx.
P.S. Get Well Soon!

JUSTIN RING
Happy 18th Birthday on 28th March



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MKNEWS In Memoriam

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In Memoriam

Golden Wedding Memories 25th March
In loving memory of
RONALD CRISP
'Tiddler'
30th March 2007
If I could live my life again,
Go back and have a second chance,
I still would choose the path I chose,
Find gladness in the same romance.
Could I but wave a magic wand,
Wipe out the years and start anew,
I still would clasp my hand in yours,
And face life's unknown road with you.
Miss you so much
Love ALWAYS
Cynthia xx

LOUISE JONES
1st January 1962 - 26th March 2007
Today we looked into the sky and it was beautiful, and then we realised its because you are there.
We love and miss you very much.
Dale & Lisa
xxx

BETTY JUNE BEDDOE
10th June 1935 - 28th March 2009
Memories are the loveliest things,
They last from day to day,
They can't get lost, they don't wear out,
And can't be given away.
All my love
Jim and family

ANDREW HAYES RILEY
1st April 2006
If roses grow in heaven,
Lord please pick a bunch for me,
Place them in my sons arms,
And tell him they're from me.
Tell him I love him and miss him,
When he turns to smile,
Place your arms upon his head,
And hug him for a while.
Remembering him is easy,
I do it every day.
But there's an ache within my heart,
That will never go away.
Love Mum, family and friends

TERRY WHITE
6/5/52 - 29/3/04
Never more than a thought away.
All my love Sandra

To Dad
Love
Simon & Lee,
Adam & Vicki,
Daniel & Kathryn

To Grandad
Love Edward,
Amelia, Harry,
Dylan & Isaac

In loving memory
ANNE TOMKINS
27th March 2006
Five years have gone Mum,
But love and memories will never die .
Always in our thoughts and forever in our hearts.
Love and missed always.
Mary, John, Helen and families
xxxxxx

DAD

We never miss our water until our well runs dry.
Remembering you always and forever.
Love Warren
Rachel & Lily

JOHANNA HENRY
16.04.1964 - 07.04.2008
It's been three years since angels came and carried you to the land of the Father, free from your worldly pain and suffering. Your time came to quickly.
Forever loved, forever cherished, forever missed.
Johanna Henry we love you.

LILLIAN E. HENRY
31.10.1928 - 29.03.2009
Doting mother, loving grandmother.
Yours was a battle that you could not win,
for your heart was truly broken.
Two years have gone and past,
you are greatly missed.
L.E. Henry you are truly loved.
Love always from Agatha (Elaine) & Nathan
A Mothers love never dies.

CHRIS HOLLAND
'Wally'
Sunrise 11.10.53
Sunset 29.03.10
Have I told you lately that I love you every day.
How I'd love to dance with my father again.
I wish that with all my heart Dad.
I'll stand by you. I know you'll always stand by me Daddy.
Three little birds beside my doorstep.
I know you're always beside me uncle Wally.
We love you and miss you more every day.
God bless, sleep tight
Tracey, Leigh, Amy and Lewis
xxxxxxx

Acknowledgements

IVOR RAYMOND COLE
Ivor's family would like to thank all who attended his funeral and those who sent cards, flowers, kind messages of sympathy, and donations to The Bedford Hospitals Charity Gamma Plus Appeal.

WILLIAM DAVID MEHEW
Audrey and family would like to thank all those who attended Bill's funeral, sent cards, letters of sympathy and donations to the Bunyan Church Foyer Refurbishment Fund. Please accept this as the only acknowledgement

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City bikers to join war heroes rally

BY KIRSTEN RAWLINS
kirsten.rawlins@mk-news.co.uk

CITY bikers will be taking part in a rally to raise money to help our war heroes.

Thousands of motorcyclists from across the country are expected to take part in the Mothers' Day Ride to Wootton Bassett in Wiltshire on Sunday in aid of war charity Afghan Heroes.

Vikki Bull, 18, is one of about 60 going along from the Milton Keynes Barrel Bikers MCC, based in Stony Stratford.

The Milton Keynes College business student said: "I'm taking part to say thank you to the people of Wootton Basset for hosting the repatriation of our soldiers.

"One of my best friends has just got back from Afghanistan and a lot of his comrades were killed, so I'll be saying thank you on his behalf as well.

"The ride was set up by a Wootton Basset bikers club to raise money for Afghan Heroes, to raise money for the soldiers when they return home, such as if they have injuries. It's such an emotional day. It really, really is. The atmosphere is amazing. We ride through the little villages on the way and everyone comes out to see us and say thank you.

Barrel Bikers MCC member Vikki Bull will be collecting for Afghan Heroes on the Wotton Bassett bike rally to be held on Mothers' Day

"We donate £10 to get on the ride and then we spend money there as well. We raised more than £400 just by going last year."

"This year I'm also doing a fundraiser at college where I will be asking for donations and I'm hoping to raise around £100."

The bikers will gather at RAF Hullavington Airfield before making their way down to Wootton Basset.

Last year, about 22,500 motorcyclists took part, including 144 from Milton Keynes, raising more than £100,000.

Budget cash for potholes

AN EXTRA £654,170 has been given to Milton Keynes Council to help fix the city's potholes.

The council recently pledged £1million to fill in the nuisance holes, including buying a large planer machine to speed up the process, and work began on Monday.

The extra money, which will be on top of the £1million, was given by Chancellor George Osborne who committed an extra £100million to addressing the national pothole problem in last Wednesday's budget.

City MPs Mark Lancaster and Iain Stewart said they were delighted with the news, as both have been contacted by constituents about the number of potholes across the city.

Mr Lancaster said: "While the budget may seem full of intangible figures, here is some concrete, literally, improvement for our communities.

"Potholes are still a massive problem in Milton Keynes, especially in the rural areas, and this extra cash is very welcome."

Mr Stewart added: "The drive through some of the areas within my constituency hasn't exactly been a pleasant one. Making this extra money available for Milton Keynes is thus very welcome as it will go a long way to make our communities much safer and also reduce damage to residents' vehicles."

Department for Transport

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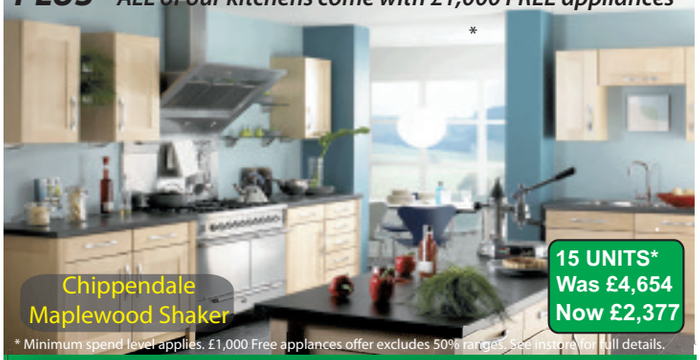

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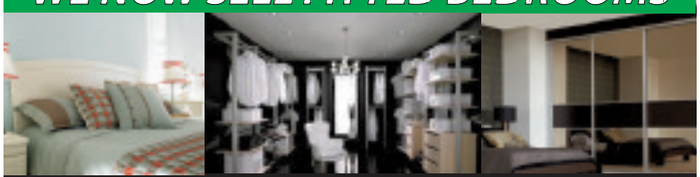
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Telly show set to turn tables on dodgy tradesmen

A NEW BBC programme targeting dodgy tradesmen is coming to Milton Keynes.

Consumer documentary series Dirty Tricks of the Tradesmen will see a bona fide builder work with a hidden camera to expose outrageous rip-offs by real-life rogue tradesmen. By putting them in the spotlight, Watchdog presenter Chris Hollins and his team want to show Britain's unsuspecting homeowners how to get one over on the scoundrels.

Chris said: "We want to stop vulnerable people from being taken for a ride and paying more than they need to. I'm hearing really distressing stories of people who've fallen for the tradesmen's patter."

To get involved call 0207 202 2364, or e-mail consumer@objectiveproductions.com.

TV professor to give lecture at city school

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

A FAMOUS professor will be visiting the city to give a lecture later this spring.

Lord Robert Winston, professor of science and society and emeritus professor of fertility studies at the Imperial College, London, is famed for his TV appearances on programmes like Making Babies, The Human Body and Secret Life of Twins.

On May 23, he will be visiting Denbigh School in Shenley Church End to present a lecture called Modifying Humans - Where Does Genetics Stop?

Open to members of the public, and in particular students, it will be part of the school's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Lecture Programme.

In it, the professor will discuss the ethical implications of advances in gene technology and whether our imperfect knowledge of genetic inheritance will mean there are some unpleasant surprises in the future.

Andy Squires, deputy headteacher at Denbigh, said: "I am looking forward to welcoming Professor Winston to Denbigh and am thrilled that he is taking time out of his busy schedule to provide what is going to be a fascinating lecture to an inspired Milton Keynes audience."

To book your place at the free lecture, contact Mr Squires at squiresa@denbigh.net, or call 01908 330509, providing your full contact details, including your postal address, telephone number and name(s) of those wishing to attend.

Professor Robert Winston

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Family pays tribute to car crash cyclist

BY KIRSTEN RAWLINS
kirsten.rawlins@mk-news.co.uk

Such a good father: Robert Gregory

TRIBUTES have been paid to a 'loving father' and 'wonderful husband' who died while he was out cycling.

Robert Gregory, 43, of Little Brickhill, was killed after his bicycle collided with a red Peugeot 306 on the A5 in Milton Keynes last Sunday.

His mother, Georgina Grace-Pevitt, 62, of Glynneath, South Wales, said: "He lived far away from us but we always kept in contact. Everybody says it, but Robert was such a good father. I just feel awful, because there's nothing anyone can do. It's beyond belief."

Robert leaves behind his wife Christina and two children aged five and two.

Christina said: "Rob was such a caring person, he was a loving father and doted on his children and was a wonderful husband filling our lives with so much love and laughter.

"Rob loved his cycling and would cycle for miles exploring the county. When he wasn't cycling he would be making improvements to our home, just last year building a conservatory for our children to play in. He was loved and highly thought of by all that knew him, always ready to offer a helping hand to those who needed it and no-one loved him more than his family."

The 27-year-old driver of the car was arrested on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving and released on police bail until May 4.

Police are still looking for a black Vauxhall Astra and a 4x4 towing a trailer which were seen on the road before the accident.

Anyone with information can call police on 0845 8 505 505.

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1p cut in fuel duty branded 'ridiculous'

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

COMMUTERS and business owners have dismissed the one pence fuel duty cut announced in last week's budget as 'ridiculous'.

Chancellor George Osborne delivered a budget, which was expected to address the country's escalating fuel costs, last Wednesday.

He announced a 1p per litre cut in fuel duty, delayed a planned inflation rise in duty until 2012 and scrapped the proposed annual one pence above inflation 'fuel escalator' rise until 2015.

Nigel Hing, 48, from Broughton, runs removals business Bald Man Big Van. He says the announcement hasn't helped him at all as each time he fills his van with diesel it costs about £100.

He said: "I just think it's ridiculous – how can he justify a 1p decrease when the fuel industry is making billions a year.

"I've been in this business for 22 years and fuel never used to be a problem, you could fill up and not bat an eyelid, but now you're always thinking about the next time you have to fill up.

"I haven't raised my prices for four years, but you look at it and wonder how you can price fuel in – you can't pass it on to the customer because they will go elsewhere."

Katie Andrews, from Wolverton, works as a physiotherapist in Potters Bar and spends about £50 per week on diesel – a sixth of what she earns.

Fuel tax drop no help: Nigel Hing

She said: "A 1p cut in tax will only save me about £2 a week.

"If he wants to tackle the deficit, we need more local jobs, not a 1p cut in fuel tax."

FACTFILE

THE BUDGET AT A GLANCE

- No changes to alcohol duty rates, but a two per cent rise in excise duties for wine, spirits and beer, meaning about 10p added to a pint
- Tobacco duty rates rise two per cent above inflation, raising the price of a packet of cigarettes by around 50p
- No increases to personal income tax and the personal tax allowance will rise to £8,105 in April 2012
- Winter fuel payments will fall this year
- An inflation rise in road tax
- A rise in air passenger duty will be frozen this year

100 not out: Margaret Sharp claims a walk every day is secret to long life

Roaring Twenties were best says Bletchley centenarian

A WALK every day, sensible eating and a good night's sleep are the secrets to a long life, according to 100-year-old Margaret Sharp.

The centenarian celebrated her birthday last Sunday with staff, family, friends and a card from the Queen at Sanctuary Care's Caton House Care Home in Bletchley.

Born in Padbury, Buckinghamshire, the former children's nurse said it had been an occasion to remember.

She said: "I can't quite believe that I've made it to 100.

"I had a lovely birthday and I would like to thank everyone who made it so special. To receive a birthday card from the Queen was very exciting.

"Everything has changed since I was young. The technology around today is amazing.

"But to my mind, the 1920s was the best decade because I was young and you had all the new fashions. Everyone was very stylish then.

"The worst time was undoubtedly the Second World War years. There was an awful loss of life, so much destruction and families torn apart.

"If you want to live to 100, eat well, go for a walk every day and make sure you get a good night's sleep."

Looking for something to do **this Easter**?

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/childcare tel: 0800 035 0335

There's all sorts going on in the Milton Keynes area for children, young people and families over the Easter break. Sports activities, arts and crafts, sailing and fun on Caldecotte Lake...the list goes on. The Families Information Service at Milton Keynes Council has details of a huge range of holiday activities for young people aged from under one right through to nineteen years old.

So, look no further if you're looking to keep the family occupied during the holidays – we can tell you all you need to know.

To find out more call 0800 035 0335 or visit www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/childcare

MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL

Have you planned what to do this Easter?

With the Easter holidays just around the corner, Milton Keynes Council's Families Information Service is encouraging people to check out what activities are available for children and young people by logging on to their activity database at www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/childcare

The website contains hundreds of things to do for children of all ages this Easter including sailing, gymnastics, film and animation courses, adventure activities and even searching for frogs at Caldecotte Lake!

Searching for something to do is easy. Simply log on to the Families Information Service website at www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/childcare or call the team on 0800 035 0335.

As well as providing details of activities, the Families Information Service can also help parents and carers find childcare over the holidays using their links to many out of school and holiday schemes, activity clubs and childminders.

Graham Harper from the Families Information Service said: "Children and young people are always excited to start their school holidays but as any parent knows, it's not long before they've run out of things to do. Our database of activities includes something for everyone so I urge parents to pay us a visit online, or give us a call."

Dame Cleo to be given freedom of the borough

BY KIRSTEN RAWLINS
kirsten.rawlins@mk-news.co.uk

A CITY 'legend' who set up a popular live music venue will be awarded an honorary title.

Dame Cleo Laine, 83, who set up The Stables in Wavendon will be given Freedom of the Borough of Milton Keynes for her international reputation in music, her support of local music charities and her work in promoting music education.

Only two other prominent local citizens have been given the same title – Lord Campbell, a key figure in Milton Keynes' development, and Dr Jim Marshall OBE, founder and inventor of Marshall amps.

Dame Cleo, whose career spans more than half a century, will be presented with the accolade by Milton Keynes Mayor, Councillor Debbie Brock, on Thursday.

Cllr Brock said: "It's not an exaggeration to say that Dame Cleo Laine is a legend in her own lifetime.

"Both Dame Cleo and her late husband Sir John Dankworth have done so much for Milton Keynes over the years and made an enormous impact musically and culturally for the borough.

"The Stables, a registered charity founded by Cleo and John, is a fantastic venue which regularly features top class acts and is immensely respected and popular both nationally and internationally."

Under The Local Government Act 1972, Freedom of the Borough does not bestow any rights to its beholder – it is merely to honour people who have given outstanding service to the city.

Dame Cleo said: "This is a great honour and I'm looking forward to my day."

Honoured: Dame Cleo Laine

New drugs and booze services

TWO new services are coming to Milton Keynes to help people with alcohol and drug addictions.

From Friday, Crime Reduction Initiatives (CRI) will offer advice and treatment to adults on issues related to drugs and alcohol, while Compass will provide these services for young people.

CRI and Compass have an outcome-based contract with Joint Commisioning, the body which will commission private contracts on behalf of MK Council and the primary care trust, until March 2014.

The providers will be paid based on improvements in the patient's condition and behaviour, rather than funding the number of treatments or visits a person has with the service.

Not only will this help save the council and NHS money, but it will have a positive impact on patients as they are helped to recover from their addictions.

Mick Hancock, assistant director of Joint Commissioning said: "Crime Reduction Initiatives and Compass will help local dependent drug and alcohol users recover from their addictions. This will have a positive impact on people who use this service. It will also benefit their families and the local community."

Previously, there had been five providers offering drug and alcohol support services but these will stop providing services as of tomorrow.

In Milton Keynes there is an estimated 930 serious drug users but in March 2009 just 478 of these were receiving treatment to address their substance misuse.

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Teenagers given opportunity to join 'big society'

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

WANT to help out in the community, while having a great time and even getting to see England at Wembley?

MK Dons Sports and Education Trust is joining the 'big society' and offering Year 11 students the chance to volunteer, earn sporting qualifications and have fun in the process.

The trust needs 100 teenagers to take part in the National Citizen Service (NCS) project pilot, running across the country to get young people involved in what happens in their community.

During the eight weeks, starting in July, volunteers will first go on a seven day residential visit to Hayling Island, off the south coast, for team-building activities including abseiling and raft building.

A second week-long residential will then take place at Stowe School, where the volunteers will get involved in the organisations and projects already active in the community.

Volunteer Tonny Kagaba, Ellen Powell of NCS, Football League president Lord Mawhinney and volunteers Jodie Waller and Ashleigh Wells with youth worker Claret Brown at the launch of the National Citizen Service at stadiummk

The youngsters will then spend a week designing projects they would like to organise and the following five weeks will be part time with a minimum of 30 hours worked on the chosen schemes. The whole thing will finish with a day at Wembley.

NCS co-ordinator Ellen Powell said: "The target we've been given is just for them to enjoy it and give something to the community.

"We will also be offering Sports Leaders qualifications and trying to get them engaged in volunteering in the long term."

Anyone who is interested in taking part can e-mail ncs@mkdonsset.com, text NCS with their name to 60777, or ring Ellen on 01908 622889.

MKNEWSBRIEFS

Soccer stars play golf

ENGLAND'S footballing stars dropped in on Sunday for a quick round of golf.

Boss Fabio Capello played 18 holes at Woburn Golf Club, which has just had a £3.5million clubhouse investment, along with goalkeeper Joe Hart, defenders Michael Dawson and Phil Jagielka and midfielder James Milner, who all played in Saturday's Euro 2012 qualifying win. They were joined by last night's captain Gareth Barry and former England legend Trevor Brooking.

Check caller ID

TRADING Standards is warning people to be careful of bogus census callers.

Census collectors will be calling at households where a form has not been returned.

Trading Standards is asking everyone to be on their guard and always check the authority of anyone calling at their home.

Be a royal poet

BUDDING poets can win the chance to have one of their creations presented to Prince William and Kate Middleton as a wedding present.

Milton Keynes Council is asking for poems on the royal wedding theme, with the winning elegy being written on vellum parchment, provided by Newport Pagnell-based William Cowley, and presented to the future King and Queen.

The closing date is Friday, April 8. E-mail your entry to communications@milton-keynes.gov.uk.

How will you be celebrating? Let us know. E-mail editor@mk-news.co.uk.

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Guests at the Making Art Work event were, *from left*, David Hill, chief executive of Milton Keynes Council, Anthony Spira, gallery director, Mark Lancaster and John Luff, founder of Sustainable Marketing and guest speaker

MK Gallery showcases its outreach work

MK GALLERY showcased its community and youth work at a special presentation on Thursday.

Making Art Work for Milton Keynes featured speakers from the gallery's learning team, its youth committee Lost and Found and others who demonstrated some of the behind-the-scenes work that goes into creating exhibitions from organisations like community charity Inter-Action MK and children from Romans Field School.

MP Mark Lancaster also outlined what he thought is the important part the gallery has to play in the forthcoming city status bid.

More HIV tests offered

BY KIRSTEN RAWLINS
kirsten.rawlins@mk-news.co.uk

RESIDENTS could be offered HIV tests every time they use the NHS due to the high levels of the virus in the city.

Plans from the Health Protection Agency for more readily available HIV tests are being recommended in areas with high levels of infection, such as Milton Keynes.

Under the plans, anyone who gives a blood sample could be offered a test, as well as those admitted into hospital and patients signing up to a new GP surgery.

In 2009 the average number of people with HIV in Milton Keynes was almost 2 in 1,000.

According to the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence, areas where two or more adults in 1,000 have HIV are viewed as having high levels of the virus.

A spokesman from Milton Keynes Primary Care Trust (PCT) said: "It is important that people with HIV get an early diagnosis as this leads to appropriate treatment which means they can have an average life expectancy. HIV testing is entirely voluntary. In Milton Keynes doctors and nurses will recognise individuals most at risk of HIV and are able to offer them a test.

"NHS Milton Keynes is also exploring Health Protection Agency recommendations to make the routine offer of HIV testing more widely available as this would address the concerns some people might have about approaching a health professional to ask for a HIV test."

MP for Milton Keynes South Iain Stewart attended an event in Parliament for World AIDS Day last December to back efforts to increase HIV testing.

He said: "I am of course delighted that the PCT is considering making HIV testing widely available in the city."

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Volunteers from The Princes Trust at Esteem Radio

Radio station facelift

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

YOUNG volunteers have spruced up one of their favourite city youth projects.

The offices of Esteem Radio, run and presented by 13 to 19-year-olds, were getting a bit tired and old, so three weeks ago 11 volunteers from MK Academy, working on behalf of The Prince's Trust, selected it as the project they wanted to help. Armed with pencils and paint brushes, the students set about rejuvenating the office in Acorn House, Midsummer Boulevard, and giving the volunteers who work there a bit of a lift.

One of the decorators, 17-year-old Dan Harriman, said: "We painted it, put in some new equipment and brought in some more records.There were a number of projects we could have worked on, but this one seemed more appropriate to do for people of our age group."

The youngsters will get a qualification in public services at the end of a 12-week course, which includes this project.

Station organiser Joe West said: "It looks a lot better now because before, although young people were working there, it wasn't a youth-oriented environment. Now we have that."

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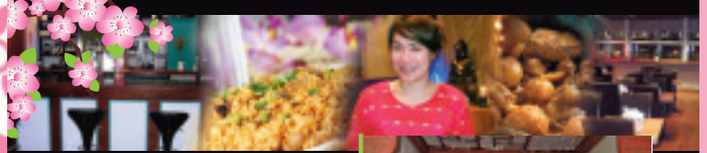

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Food parcel 'drive' hailed a success

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

A DONATION drive by a charity which provides food parcels to the city's needy has been hailed a success.

The Big Little Give, organised by The Food Bank, which gives much-needed supplies to those struggling to provide meals for themselves or their families, was held last week.

Sue Wall, project manager for the charity, said people's donations are vital as demand for the service doubled in January and February, compared to the same period in 2010.

She said: "The drive was big because we wanted all of Milton Keynes to get involved, but it's little because we are asking people to do something small, like donating a few cans or being sponsored to do something.

"We had lots of people doing different things – we had food collections at Waitrose, Budgens and Morrisons, we had businesses like DHL doing in-house collections and schools and churches donating as well.

"We're hoping we've received the same amount as at harvest time, around £11,000, which doesn't last long, around six to eight weeks, but it all helps."

The charity provides balanced diet food parcels to those who are referred to them by organisations like social services or the Citizens Advice Bureau. The parcels last around three or four days and the charity, based in Stacey Bushes, currently hands out up to 200 every week.

It now hopes the drive will become an annual event and already has plans in the pipeline for next year, including a possible world record attempt for the largest tinned food structure.

Broosward School pupils with Arnie Hensby from The Food Bank and the goodies they collected during The Big Little Give

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Rotarians Carol Barker, Maureen Forbes, Adrian James and Jan Lloyd with Jurys Inn manager Anthony Barrett admire the crocuses at The Hub

Rotarians' crocuses in late show

THOSE blooming crocuses have finally made an appearance.

As previously reported in MK NEWS, the 5,000 purple flowers planted by the Rotary Club of Milton Keynes outside Jurys Inn in Midsummer Boulevard were due to grow in time for Rotary Great Britain's Thanks for Life campaign - an effort to eradicate polio worldwide.

The purple colour represents the dye people dip their finger in when they have been vaccinated against the disease.

Private ops probe

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

A CITY MP is investigating a steep increase in the number of operations in private hospitals that are funded by the NHS.

In 2008, five Milton Keynes residents had NHS-funded operations in private hospitals, rising to 319 in 2009 and 2,151 in 2010.

The figures came to light following a parliamentary question by MP for Milton Keynes North Mark Lancaster, who vowed to make health his priority before the General Election.

He said: "These figures are certainly very interesting.

"While I support the concept of choice in healthcare, something NHS reforms are set out to broaden, I want to ensure this is not being used as a quick-fix by primary care trusts, at the expense of our budgets or publicly-owned facilities."

Mr Lancaster has since written to Dr Nick Hicks, chief executive of Milton Keynes PCT, asking the cost of these operations and how many were undertaken through patient choice.

Constituents have reported being sent for private procedures because of a backlog at NHS hospitals.

The Nursing Times has reported in some cases it is cheaper to send patients to private hospitals for one-off treatments, but the British Medical Journal said the NHS has been overcharged for such procedures in the past.

Mr Lancaster added: "Patients aren't complaining when they are 'upgraded', but clearly we need to find the balance between delivering excellent care for our patients and maintaining an investment in the local health economy."

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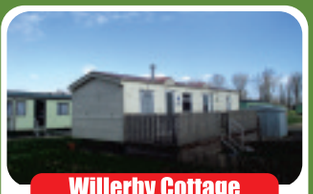

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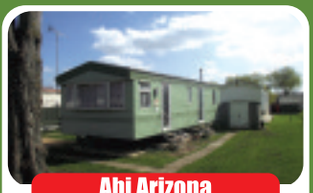

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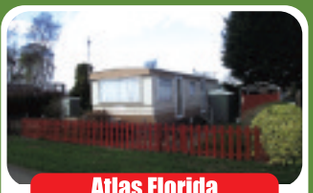

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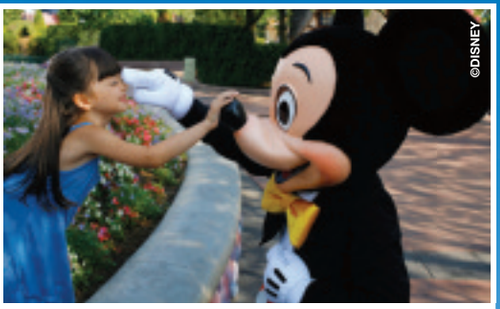

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A four-star break - Departs 17 July 2011

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Includes • Coach travel throughout • One night's dinner, bed and English breakfast accommodation at the four-star Reading Novotel • Visits to Oxford and Henley on Thames • Entrance to Highclere Castle and Egyptian exhibition • A short tour of the Thames Valley • The services of a Tour Manager

Single supplement applies

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The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

Departs 12 & 26 August 2011

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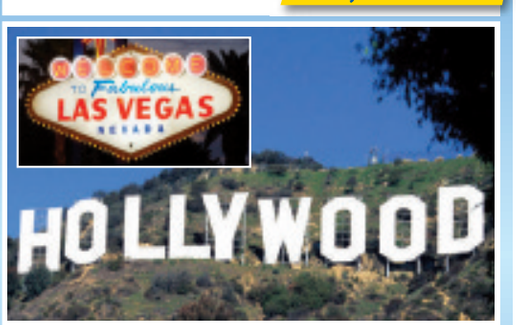

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Departs 23 July 2011

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Photographer is hoping to publish book of snaps

BY ADAM GRINSELL
adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk

AN AMATEUR photographer who took images of residents and scenes of everyday life in the city is hoping to have a book of her work published.

Last year, Vicky Lamburn, 27, had her 'Impression Milton Keynes' project displayed in exhibitions across the city.

She worked on the project for more than a year, taking about 6,500 photos of everything ranging from landscapes and architecture to people posing on their doorsteps and arranged them to form an impression of a typical day in the city, from dawn until dusk.

Vicky, a web designer who now lives in Worthing, West Sussex, said Milton Keynes made a big impression on her in her youth when she visited the city regularly while living in Haddenham in Buckinghamshire.

She said: "I don't conform to this idea that Milton Keynes is just a concrete jungle.

"I wanted to show that Milton Keynes is more than just the common perception of concrete cows and roundabouts.

"But I also didn't want to make it look like Milton Keynes is perfect, I wanted to give a real impression of it."

Following the success of her exhibitions, she is now hoping her photos will be published in a book in the summer, but needs 300 pre-registrations before a publisher can make it happen.

Vicky Lamburn is hoping to get a book of her Milton Keynes photos published

Vicky said the book would cost around £10 and be launched at an event in the city - she currently has half of the pre-registrations she needs.

To pre-register and see some of her work, visit www.vickylamburn.com/milton-keynes.

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MK BUSINESS

The 'essence' of Mercedes is captured on camera

PHOTOGRAPHY students from Walton High School have taken part in a month-long competition in partnership with Mercedes-Benz.

The 14 Year Nine pupils were judged on Thursday on how well they had captured the dynamics of the Mercedes-Benz brand in its showroom with their photos taken on digital cameras, under the guidance of Anne Toole from Annalise Photographers.

Judges Andy Handley, MK NEWS' photographer, Anne Toole and retailer MD Warren Brearley eventually chose Joe Kirby who Mr Brearley said 'captured the very essence of the incredible £168,000 'gullwing' Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG'.

Joe was presented with a Sony SLR camera complete with a range of accessories and camera bag, in addition to a special edition certificate of achievement.

All the students taking part received a certificate and a bag of motoring-related goodies from the retailer.

The work will remain in the Kingston showroom for the public to view until Friday.

Above left: Photography students from Walton High. Above: Competition winner Joe Kirby with Anne Toole and Warren Brearley

Firm fined after worker fell from roof

A COMPANY has been fined more than £3,000 after an engineer fell through a skylight.

Barry Brice, 44, of Wavendon Gate was measuring a damaged skylight at Alpla UK Ltd's premises in Kingston when it shattered and he fell 7.5 metres onto the floor of the tool room below.

He suffered a fractured wrist and finger, broken ribs, cuts and bruising and was off work for nine weeks following the fall in November 2009.

Alpla Ltd pleaded guilty to failing to comply with sections of the Work at Height Regulations Act 2005 at Milton Keynes Magistrates' Court.

The company was fined £3,200 and ordered to pay £4,145 in costs in the case brought by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

Karl Howes, HSE inspector, said: "Mr Brice was incredibly lucky he was able to walk away from this when, so often, falls from this sort of height are fatal. This incident was entirely preventable and demonstrates what little control there was at the Alpla site. Mr Brice should never have been allowed alone to venture onto the roof.

"Falls through roofs during maintenance tasks are a well-known risk. This case highlights the need for employers to consider the risks associated with this practice and have proper systems in place to control them."

Alpha Ltd declined to comment.

MKNEWS BRIEFS

Human resources club

A HUMAN resources club for business owners, managers and HR professionals is being launched next week by law firm Pictons.

The HR Club will deliver a range of conferences and seminars on employment topics and meetings with Pictons' employment experts to discuss specific issues.

The first event, entitled Age is Just A Number, is on Wednesday from 1-5pm at David Lloyd, Newlands.

Mother's Day treat

THECENTRE:MK'S Facebook followers could be in for a special Mother's Day treat as it is running a competition to win expert advice in Monsoon's newly-opened personal styling room.

The winner will receive advice from the store's new stylist Nancy Steven, £200 to spend on clothing and accessories and a three-course meal at Carluccio's.

To enter, follow thecentre:mk on Facebook.

No burnt toast

IT WAS a low carbon breakfast for business bosses when the Institute of Directors hosted another series of briefings at the Hilton.

Guests heard Dr Grant Bourhill, director of programme delivery at the Loughborough-based Energy Technologies Institute, outline the development of some low carbon and electric vehicle projects and how Milton Keynes was at the forefront of transport electrification.

Part exchange homes

HOMEOWNERS struggling to sell their property can find a guaranteed buyer within weeks when they reserve a house at Heathley Chase, Taylor Wimpey's development in the north of the city.

At an Easymover Secure Day on Saturday, experts will explain how the company can help find a new buyer or, if one is not found withing four weeks, Taylor Wimpey will step in and buy the old property for an agreed price.

New man at van centre

A NEW after sales manager has joined the team at Wayside Volkswagen Van Centre in Bletchley.

Sean Bonner, 30, has worked in the motor trade as a parts technician since 1999 and hopes to bring this experience to the van centre.

MK LIFE

YOUR GUIDE TO LEISURE IN YOUR CITY

Stories and conversation with Dr Samuel Johnson – see inside

INSIDE

Dohl do it loud at The Stables **page 40**

PLUS

Simon Darnell reviews the new music releases **page 40**

Enter the comic court of Count Arthur Strong **page 41**

Win tea for two (plus two) at Frosts Garden Centre **page 44**

Daily Life – what's on and where in the city **page 45**

Leisure or events news? e-mail **leisure@mk-news.co.uk** | phone **01908 689595**

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STEPHANIE J. KING
SCHOOL OF LIGHT
Saturday 2nd April 2011
10.00am - 3.00pm
HOW TO KNOW YOUR SOUL PATH
Workshop

You are the creative writing of your life and your life story. What you say, think, want & do is the live programming you send straight to source.
Yet how many of us know why we do things we do, why things happen - good & bad - & how to change this? Your soul path is the journey you are travelling. For changes to come in you must know the process better. This workshop will give you guidance, insight & ways to aid & turn things around for the better...

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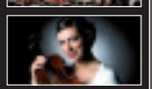
the stables

Wednesday 30 March, 8pm
SANDI THOM
She wished she was a punk rocker and now she joins us at The Stables touring material from latest album Merchants & Thieves.
Tickets £16.50

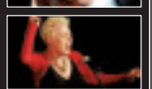
Friday 1 April, 8pm
GANDALF MURPHY & THE SLAMBOVIAN CIRCUS OF DREAMS
The band hailed as "the hillbilly Pink Floyd" joins us with their utterly unique blend of folk, rock, psychedelia and quirky Americana.
Tickets £16.50

Sunday 3 April, 8pm
THE DHOL FOUNDATION
Vibrant infectious beats that mix drum and bass, tabla, hiphop and bhangra together with traditional Punjabi song and dance.
Tickets £16.50, £18.50

Wednesday 6 April, 8pm
ENSEMBLE 360
The superb international classical ensemble with repertoire from Poulenc, Dvorak and Brahms.
Tickets £12.50 & £17.50, students £5



Thursday 7 April, 8pm
HAZEL O'CONNOR & THE BLUJA PROJECT
The Breaking Glass star tours her classic songs and ageless standards with her vibrant new torch song trio.
Tickets £18



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MKLIFE | MUSIC REVIEW | LIVE MUSIC

SIMON DARNELL

I CAN

Blue

TRUST me lads, you can't.

Watching the increasingly desperate attempts of the United Kingdom Eurovision bigwigs as they grope around in the dark for anything that'll get them a victory is becoming more and more tiresome by the year.

You could argue that we hit our nadir when Jemini walked away with the wooden spoon, but I'd argue that we hit rock bottom when the organisers went cap in hand to Pete Waterman last year.

I mean, really? Pete 'Stock Aitken And' Waterman was the best British songwriter available?

One or two countries are actually putting in a bit of effort these days; switching on The Hit Factory to produce one last fully-assembled, batteries-included popstar (hello Josh) was never going to be good enough.

So here we are now, persuading yet another previously defunct band to come out of retirement. It didn't do Scooch many favours, but anyway, this time, Blue are back.

Perhaps Five were busy, who knows?

Now then, judging by the heavy sound of the drums, somebody's been listening to a lot of Phil Collins (I would've suggested PiL's Flowers of Romance instead, but y'know, this is Blue we're talking about here).

However, judging by everything else, somebody's been listening to a lot of Blue's back catalogue because they're picking up from virtually where they left off.

If you're a fan of the band, and let's face it who isn't, then you'll probably be chuffed to bits to hear that.

What we've ended up with is standard Eurovision fare – a dated sounding, anthemic pop song that runs for three minutes exactly.

The lyrics have a stirring message that I'm sure will resonate with every United Kingdom citizen come Eurovision night, and that is 'if we believe in ourselves and each other, we can overcome anything, unless the Eastern Europeans give each other 12 points'.

On the one hand, it's a measure of the power of Eurovision that it can reassemble a long-inactive boyband, but on the other, it'll be interesting to see how they react to having their backsides handed to them on a plate by the rest of Europe.

Let's face it, this is the Royaume Unis entry therefore it isn't going to win, and what's more, even if the world was a fairer place it's not even good enough to win and the real triumph for Blue will come if they can survive the experience to have more hits in the future.

THE STABLES 01908 280800

THE MISFITZ

Saturday, April 16. 8pm.

AFTER five years of performing to audiences across the city The Misfitz are to play their last gig, at least in their current line-up.

The Misfitz' founder, and driving force, Charles Francis, has been diagnosed with malignant brain tumours, which have, in his words, 'rather curtailed my musical activities'.

Despite the terrible shock to the rest of the band, the event was booked early last year and they plan to make sure this is the band's best ever performance.

Vocalist Alison Locke, said "We've been promoting the show as 'Against all Odds' because it's been so sad to play without Charles. The Stables feels like the home of The Misfitz and we love playing there because the atmosphere is like one big happy family."

On the night, Charles plans to join the band on stage for a couple of songs.

His wife, Clare, explained why: "Charles is such a strong person and he wants to show the world that, as debilitating as the symptoms are, as well as the effects of the treatment, he is fighting it every step of the way.

"He has continued to play his guitar every day since being diagnosed and he's been looking forward to the event so much."

As well as dedicating their performance to Charles, The Misfitz are also raising money for Willen Hospice, a local breast cancer charity called Bosom Pals and The Stables Next Stage Appeal.

Tickets £14.

The Kairos Quartet

SANDI THOM

Today, 8pm

SANDI Thom's debut single I Wish I Was A Punk Rocker topped the charts with the ensuing album Smile...It Confuses People shifting nearly two million copies. Supported by Marcus Bonfanti.
Tickets £16.50

GANDALF MURPHY & THE SLAMBOVIAN CIRCUS OF DREAMS

Friday, 8pm

PLAYING an utterly unique blend of rock & roll, folk and quirky Americana, this band have been called the hillbilly Pink Floyd.
Tickets £16.50

JAZZ MATTERS

Sunday, 11.30am and 1pm

SPEND a couple of hours discussing all things jazz in Stage2. A great way for people of all ages to learn more about jazz and share experiences.
Tickets £5

THE DHOL FOUNDATION

Sunday, 8pm

KNOWN for their storming festival performances and led by the irrepressible and fantastically charismatic Johnny Kalsi. Vibrant and loud, the infectious beats rush through an array of styles.
Tickets £16.50, £18.50

THE FUREYS & DAVEY ARTHUR

Tuesday, 8pm

IRISH music legends the Fureys & Davey Arthur bring their music, songs and stories to The Stables for their 13th appearance.
Tickets £20

THE KAIROS QUARTET

Stage2

Tuesday, 8.45pm

ONE of a few jazz groups to bridge the gap between crossover appeal and serious jazz credentials, saxophonist Adam Waldmann's Kairos Quartet brings a modern twist to the classic quartet format.
Tickets £10, or £12 on the door

STORM WARNING

Stage2

Friday, April 8, 8.45pm

A CONTEMPORARY blend of blues, rock and jazz with superb original songs and interesting covers featuring the amazing guitar work of Bob Moore.
Tickets £10, or £12 on the door.

SONG LOFT

Allan Taylor

ALLAN TAYLOR

Cock Hotel, Stony Stratford

Friday, 8.15pm

FOR 40 years Allan Taylor has been considered as the consummate performer.

A writer of literary gracefulness whose troubadour chronicles encapsulate the realism of otherwise unsung heroes and uncharted lives.

His songs are faultlessly constructed and flawlessly performed, with his instantly recognizable voice, attractively dark and mellow, and his intricately detailed yet full-sounding guitar playing.

Written from a lifetime of travelling, always the observer passing through, each song is a vignette of life, like a story told over a drink in a bar.

Tickets £7.

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CALENDAR GIRLS

Until April 9

AS PART of its final UK tour, Calendar Girls returns to Milton Keynes Theatre.

A group of ordinary women, members of a very ordinary Yorkshire WI, spark a global phenomenon by persuading one another to pose for a charity calendar with a difference.

As interest snowballs, the Calendar Girls find themselves revealing more than they'd ever planned.

Starring Lynda Bellingham, Jennifer Ellison, Trudie Goodwin, Ruth Madoc, Bernie Nolan, Lisa Riley, Gwen Taylor, Diana Moran, Bruno Langley, Joe Mcgann and Danielle Lineker making her stage debut.

COUNT ARTHUR STRONG

Monday, April 11

FOR one night only Count Arthur Strong will give you his Command Performance.

A show so new, not even he knows he's doing it yet.

Don't worry about that though, it's never stopped him before because whatever it is it will be funny. So get your Maltesers out, roll your trouser legs up and sit back and enjoy with the guarantee you'll have never seen anything like it, whatever it is.

MK GALLERY 01908 676900

GRUBBY MITTS

Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

A FIVE-PIECE band from Bedfordshire, fronted by visual artist Andy Holden, whose recent solo exhibition for Art Now at Tate Britain was praised as 'inward-looking and subtly monumental'.

The band describe their music as assembled from scraps and fragments of melody, as if remembered from the night before or heard floating down from a window and taken up as a hum by someone passing by on the street below.

Free. Donations welcome.

3D PHOTO ART

HAVE you recently bought a new 3D TV?

If so, MK Gallery is calling all 3D TV families to join in a photographic art project.

Artist Frazer Waller is looking for families to be part of a photographic documentation project about the shift towards 3D television.

The resulting photographs will be displayed at MK Gallery from July 8-September 11, as part of the MK Community Foundation Arts Bursary Award 2010 exhibition.

If you would like to participate, please contact Frazer by e-mailing info@frazerwaller.com, or calling 07814 629582.

STANTONBURY CAMPUS THEATRE 01908 324422

THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE

Until Saturday, 7.30pm

PERFORMED by the Wolverton Gilbert & Sullivan Society this is a vividly fresh approach to a time-honoured favourite.

This popular romp with swashbuckling pirates, led by The Pirate King, and bumbling policemen, led by The Police Sergeant, seeking to protect the welfare of the Major General's vulnerable, attractive young daughters. Tickets £15, concessions (Tuesday-Thursday only) £13 via the box office and www.wolvertongands.co.uk.

A DISH OF TEA WITH DR JOHNSON

Tuesday, 7.30pm

THE fantastic Out of Joint Theatre Company present the irritable, generous, seriously depressed yet great wit of Samuel Johnson. In an evening of stories and conversation, Ian Redford will play the eponymous man of letters, following his acclaimed portrayal of Johnson in April De Angelis' play A Laughing Matter.

Russell Barr will portray a host of characters from Boswell and the painter Joshua Reynolds to King George III, Bonnie Prince Charlie's saviour Flora Macdonald and Mrs Thrale, the society hostess who was Johnson's final, unrequited love.

Dr Johnson's cat, Hodge, will be played by Katie, a Jack Russell.

Tickets £12.50 (Concs £10).

CHRYSALIS THEATRE

BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT

Until Saturday, April 2, 7.30pm

DO YOU think you've got what it takes to decide 'Beyond Reasonable Doubt' if the murderer is guilty or not.

Accused of the wilful murder of his terminally ill wife, Sir David Metcalf finds himself locked in legal combat with his old rival, Anthony Blair-Booth QC.

After a tense and gripping courtroom scene, Act I ends just as we are about to hear the jury's verdict. Act II takes us back in time to the fateful night of Lady Metcalfe's death and ends with a surprising twist.

Performed by Longueville Little Theatre Company the original play enjoyed a successful run in London's West End, with Frank Finlay and Wendy Craig in the leading roles. It's more than a courtroom drama, it's a compelling love story and it's got the lot - laughter, tears and tension.

Tickets for the performance at the theatre in Japonica Lane, Willen Park South, cost £9 (concessions £7). They are available from www.lltc.co.uk.

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Tomato, Cheese, Tuna, Prawn, Anchovies, Chicken, Beef, Sausage, Bacon, Pineapple, Ham, Salami, Pepperonni, Chicken Tikka, Olives, Mushrooms, Corn, Onions, Pepper, Garlic, Jalepeno, BBQ Sauces	9" REGULAR OR TRADITIONAL	12" REGULAR OR TRADITIONAL	12" DEEP PAN	15" REGULAR OR TRADITIONAL
CHEESE & TOMATO BAS plus ANY 2 DIFFERENT TOPPINGS	9.50	10.50	12.00	15.00
CHEESE & TOMATO BAS plus ANY 4 DIFFERENT TOPPINGS (ADDITIONAL TOPPINGS £1)	9.80	11.00	13.00	16.00
CHEESE & TOMATO BAS plus ANY 8 DIFFERENT TOPPINGS	10.30	12.00	14.00	17.00

DESSERTS

Cheesecake	1.50
Gateaux	1.50
Ice Cream Ben & Jerry's ask for flavours	3.95
Chocolate Fudge Cake	1.50

DRINKS

Coke/Diet Coke Pepsi Orange Fanta	1.95
Coke/Orange/Lemonade cans	0.60

MEAL DEALS

Chicken Burger & Chips	3.95
1/2 Pound Beefburger & Chips	3.95
2 Pieces Chicken & Chips	3.50
3 Pieces Chicken & Chips	4.50
4 Pieces Chicken & Chips	5.50
Extra Piece of Chicken	1.00
Steak (8oz Sirloin) with Chips, Mushrooms & Salad	9.00
Large Doner Kebab	4.50
Small Doner Kebab	3.50

PIZZA MENU

ADDITIONAL TOPPINGS £1

FREE DELIVERY TO ALL MILTON KEYNES AREAS BASED ON A MINIMUM ORDER OF £9

STEP 01: CHOOSE YOUR PIZZA BASE
* REGULAR BASE (Our Famous Original Crust)
* STUFFED CRUST (Add £1.50 per pizza 9" & 12" only)
* CHICAGO DEEP-PAN (American style deep crust)

STEP 02: SELECT YOUR PIZZA TASTE

	9" REGULAR OR TRADITIONAL	12" REGULAR OR TRADITIONAL	12" Deep Pan	15" REGULAR OR TRADITIONAL
1. PAPA LUIGI SPECIAL Tomato, Cheese, Ham, Mushroom, Salami, Peppers, Olives, Anchovies	£9.80	£11.00	£13.00	£16.00
2. HOT 'N' SPICY Tomato, Cheese, Salami, Peppers, Jalapenos, Garlic	£9.80	£11.00	£13.00	£16.00
3. VEGI SPECIAL Tomato, Cheese ,Peppers, Corn, Mushrooms, Pineapple, Olives, Onion	£9.80	£11.00	£13.00	£16.00
4. PESCATORE Tomato, Cheese, Tuna, Prawns, Anchovies	£9.80	£11.00	£13.00	£16.00
5. BBQ BONANZA Cheese, BBQ Sauce, Red Onions, Spicy Beef, Sausage	£9.80	£11.00	£13.00	£16.00
6. TEXAN BBQ BBQ Sauce, Cheese, Onion, Peppers, BBQ Chicken, Bacon	£9.80	£11.00	£13.00	£16.00
7. PEPPERONI FEAST Double Mozzarella, Double Pepperoni	£9.80	£11.00	£13.00	£16.00
8. MILANESE Tomato, Cheese, Ham , Mushrooms	£9.50	£10.50	£12.00	£15.00
9. HAWAIIAN Tomato, Cheese, Ham, Pineapple	£9.50	£10.50	£12.00	£16.00
10. MIGHTY MEATY Tomato, Cheese, Salami, Beef, Chicken, Ham, Bacon, Sausage	£10.30	£12.00	£14.00	£17.00
11. CHICKEN TIKKA MASALA Tomato, Cheese, Chicken Tikka, Onion, Peppers	£10.30	£12.00	£14.00	£17.00
12. NEW YORKER Tomato, Onion & Green Peppers, Cheese, Salami, Beef, Chicken, Ham, Bacon, Sausage	£10.30	£12.00	£14.00	£17.00
13. MEAT LOVERS Tomato, Cheese, Double Salami, Double Pepperoni, Double Ham, Double Beef	£12.00	£14.00	£16.00	£19.00

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FAMILY FEAST
Delivery Offer
Any 3 12" traditional pizza, 3 side orders No15-21 from main menu, one 1.5ltr Coke or Diet Coke
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NOTE: No other discounts apply with this promotion & prices are subject to change without notice BUY ONE PIZZA & GET ONE PIZZA (of same value) FREE

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FINAL LAMBING WEEKEND

This weekend is your last chance to come and see the lambs being born

Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd April

between 10 am & 5 pm.

Entrance to the lambing sheds is £2 per person, entrance to the rest of the Centre is free.

Help us to celebrate our 25th year 1986 - 2011

Special events to be held throughout the year (Details will appear on our website)

The whole Centre will be open and entrance to all of our shops, gallery, restaurant & tea room is free. See the lambs, do a little shopping and then treat yourself to lunch, a snack or a nice cup of tea.

Barbecue lunches will be available.

We also have a picnic area if the weather is fine, We have ample free car parking.

Come and enjoy a special family day out in our beautiful, relaxed country setting.

Lambing sheds are under cover, but a warm coat and wellingtons are advisable as we can't guarantee the weather. The tea room can be very busy at peak meal times.

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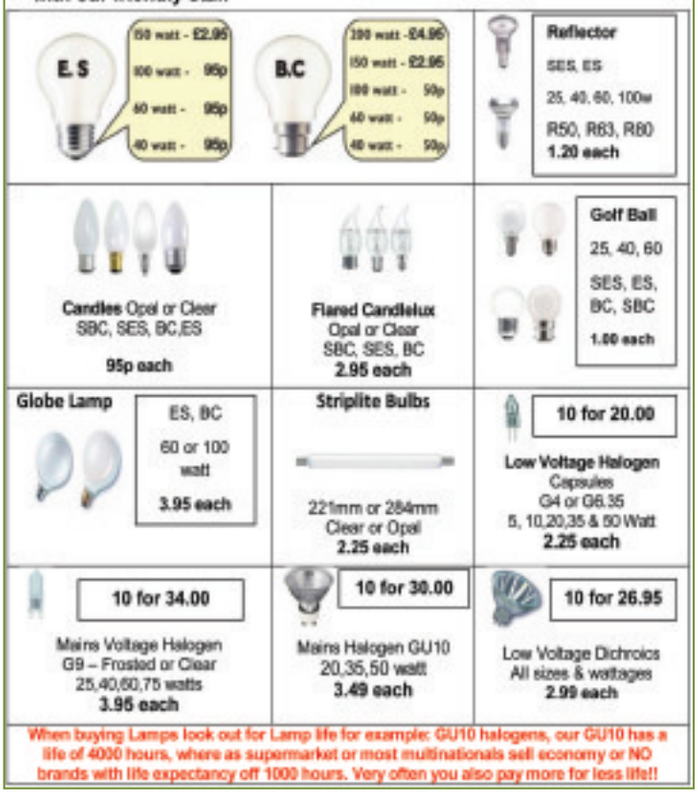

When buying Lamps look out for Lamp life for example: GU10 halogens, our GU10 has a life of 4000 hours, where as supermarket or most multinationals sell economy or NO brands with life expectancy off 1000 hours. Very often you also pay more for less life!!

COMPETITION

Win tea for two (plus two) at Frosts

HOW would you fancy a relaxing afternoon of delicate sandwiches, delicious cakes and a glass of champagne while catching up with friends? Now you can.

We have teamed up with Frosts Garden Centre, which has just launched a special afternoon tea service for its customers, to offer two lucky readers tea for four plus £50 of Frosts gift vouchers.

Served in leisurely surroundings in the Garden Room restaurant, guests can enjoy a choice of tea and coffees, sandwiches, scones with clotted cream and jam, plus a selection of pastries and cakes.

Choose from a variety of teas, including English breakfast, Assam, Darjeeling, Earl Grey and fruit tea, or fresh coffee. Alternatively make it that bit more special with a flute of Champagne.

To help launch this new service, Frosts in Woburn Sands has teamed up with MK NEWS to offer two lucky readers a Champagne afternoon tea for four, which includes afternoon tea plus a glass of bubbly each.

The winners will also be able to choose from Frosts' extensive range of products, including plants, bulbs, furniture and gifts, with a £50 voucher to spend in the garden centre.

HOW TO ENTER

TO BE in with a chance of winning this fantastic prize, simply answer the following question: Where at Frosts Garden Centre can you take afternoon tea?

Send your entries to competitions@mk-news.co.uk. The closing date for entries Wednesday, April 6.

Afternoon tea is normally £10.99 per person, which includes a choice of tea or coffee, sandwiches, scones with clotted cream and jam and a selection of pastries and cakes. Champagne afternoon tea is £15.99 per person and includes the above plus a flute of Champagne.

Terms and conditions apply: Entrants must be over 18 years old. The afternoon tea must be booked before April 30, 2011. This prize entitles the winner to Champagne afternoon tea for four plus a £50 voucher to spend at Frosts Garden Centre, Woburn Sands only.

This prize cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.

The value of the prize cannot be exchanged for cash.

Afternoon tea is available Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 2-4pm only and must be booked in the restaurant to avoid disappointment.

COMPETITION

Win tickets to a murder mystery night

IF YOU fancy yourself as a Sherlock Holmes, Hercule Poirot or even Hawaii Five-O's Steve McGarrett, then Murder on Paradise Island is just for you.

The murder mystery night party may not be in Hawaii but the Jurys Inn Hotel in The Hub will set the scene, as you pick your way through the plots and subplots and point the finger in this 'who done it'.

The event, in aid of Bliss Neo Natal Babies Charity, combines the thrill of being part of a mystery while enjoying a great night out.

You can dance the night away with live enterainment throughout the evening and DJ Laser Force, enjoy the sumptuous buffet and solve the case.

So write the date in your diary - Saturday, May 21 from 6.30pm until 1am. Tickets, costing £35, are available from www.vibrancy.org.uk, or 01908 792518.

MK NEWS has two tickets for Murder on Paradise Island to offer to one lucky reader.

To be in with a chance of winning all you have to do is answer this simple question. Who wrote Murder on the Orient Express?

Send your answer to competitions@mk-news.co.uk. Over 18s only. The closing date is Wednesday, April 6.

GARDEN LIFE

TASTY TOMATOES

Dobbies Garden Centre
Fenny Stratford

Tomorrow, 6pm.

LEARN how to grow a variety of tomatoes and juicy soft fruit including strawberries, raspberries and blackberries. Find out about pest control and the new upside-down tomato growing technique.

With food prices going through the roof an estimated one in five Britons are swapping the trolley for the trowel and growing their own fruit and veggies.

Getting started has been made a little easier with Dobbies Garden Centre, which has launched it's 'grow your own' Garden Festival.

Neil Fishlock, head of horticulture at Dobbies, said: "The Dobbies Garden Festival is all about showing you how to get stuck in. Whether you're a green-fingered guru or are more used to purchasing veg than planting."

SPUD WEEKEND

Wyevale Woburn Sands Garden Centre

Saturday and Sunday, store opening hours

THE humble spud maybe Britain's favourite vegetable, but do you know how to grow them?

Vegetable and fruit growing looks to be more popular than ever this year and April is a good month to get your potatoes in.

Wyevale manager, Dominic Wright said: "This is the third year we have run a Potato Weekend and we're really looking forward to the event. We will have at least 30 varieties of seed potatoes in-store.

"We often find people are keen to have a go, but they may be nervous because they feel they don't know how to do it and might do something wrong.

"By providing customers with free information on how to get started we can help them overcome any fears they may have."

The garden centre will also be running a potato modelling competition for children where youngsters will be challenged to create celebrities from potatoes.

Anyone who would like more information can call 01908 281161, or visit www.woburnsandsgardencentre.co.uk.

DAILY LIFE

TOMORROW

WHITE Horse, Stony Stratford, Musical quiz – intros and outros to famous music. Proceeds to 'Bring the Hungarians Back To StonyLive! In 2011'. Starts 9pm, £2.

FRIDAY

MADNESS and Fools art exhibition at The Stani Gallery in Stony Stratford. Themed art work from 50 local artists suitable for all budgets and tastes. Free entry. Call 01908 567656. From 10.30am-4.30pm.

SOUL Power at Doubletree by Hilton. Soul Selecta, six-piece soul and funk band, with DJ Mr Magic before and after the show. Doors 7.30pm. Tickets £3 from www.soulpower.ticketsource.co.uk, or £5 on the door.

SATURDAY

TIMOR Court Market off Stony Stratford High Street. Buy your weekly fruit, veg, flowers, plants, bread, sweets and fish, 8am-4pm.

MK RAMBLERS ten-mile circular walk. Meet at the Three Locks picnic car park (GR SP892283) at 10am. Details on 01525 385966.

VINTAGE alternative gift and handmade fair at York House Centre, Stony Stratford. Vegetarian, vegan, gluten free stalls from 10am-4pm. For more information visit www.magicmarkets.weebly.com.

MK PROSPECTS, Church of Christ the Vine, Coffee Hall, 7pm. Encouraging people with learning disabilities to know more about our Lord. Call Tony Welch on 01908 612351.

THE White Horse, Stony Stratford. Chicago and Delta blues, Robin Chandler & The Howling Tomcats. Starts 9pm.

Tell MK NEWS readers about YOUR event

- Do you have a fundraising event that you would like to publicise?
- Does your club have regular meetings that you want to tell others about?
- Do you run a pub that holds live music, comedy or has a special event coming up?
- Are you a member of a church or multi-faith group with a special service soon?

Send details to andy.handley@mk-news.co.uk, or call 01908 689586. Remember to get the details to us at least two weeks before the event and we will publish them, space permitting.

SUNDAY

MK RAMBLERS meet at 10am at the War Memorial in Lavendon for an 11-mile circular walk on part of the MK Boundary Walk. Could be muddy, take along a packed lunch. No dogs. Further details on 01908 606595.

GUIDED wildflower walk in the grounds of Bradwell Abbey, followed by afternoon tea in the medieval Cruck Barn. Starts 2.30pm, £6 per person, including refreshments. Book on 01908 227229 or e-mail information@mkcdc.org.uk.

PARKS and Run. Enjoy our lovely Ouse Valley Park while keeping fit from 10am-noon. Meet MK Museum car park, McConnell Drive, H2. Free.

WAGTAIL Health Walk around the water features of MK. Walks are brisk from the front and slower at the rear. Meet 11am at the Shenley Church Inn (top car park), off Burchard Crescent.

WAGGY Walks. Parks Trust. Have fun taking the dog out, £1 per dog, 10-11.30am, meet at Cambell Park Pavillion.

MILTON Keynes Classic Car meeting at the Caldecotte Arms, noon-1.30pm, followed by MKB American Car Show at 3pm. Further details from www.mkccc.com.

FLOWER festival. Join the Nipponzan Myohoji monks at the Peace Pagoda for Buddha's birthday celebration at 2pm. Free. Peace Pagoda car park, V10 Brickhill Street.

MONDAY

LITTLE Cherubs playgroup, 9.30-11.30am, York House, Stony Stratford. Pre-school age children and babies welcome with their parents and carers, £2 per family. No booking.

YORK House, Stony Stratford. Two youth clubs – 6-7.30pm for school years four and five and 7.30-9pm for school years six and seven. Subs £1. Futher details from 01908 563361, or go to www.york-house.org.uk.

TUESDAY

LITTLE Fishes Baby and Toddler Group, Methodist Church, Silver Street, Stony Stratford, 9.30-11.30am. Offering toys, crafts and refreshments. Costs £1.50.

NAIDNI Restaurant, Stony Stratford. Curry dinner with charity quiz. Costs £15 per person. Booking essential. More details at StonyCurryClub@hotmail.com.

WEDNESDAY

MYPLAYCE Youth Club, Stony Stratford Children's Play Centre, 6.30-8pm. Children aged eight to14, £1 per child. Contact playleader Linda Kehoe on 562485.

STONY Stratford Fiddle Club, Penn House, Mill Lane, Stony Stratford. Meets 8pm. Call Andrew Metcalfe on 01908 265365.

STADIUMMK

From left: **Bennett Arron Roger D Stuart Goldsmith**

RED CARD COMEDY CLUB

Friday, 7.30pm, show 8.45pm

TECHNICALLY speaking April Fool's Day foolishness should end at noon, however the Red Card Comedy Club is going to squeeze the very last bit of funny business from the day.

Performing on the night are razor sharp Bennett Arron, a cross between the paranoid angst of Max Boyce and the colloquial valley humour of Woody Allen.

The thought provoking Roger D explores faith, race and why women can't stop talking.

Stuart Goldsmith's comedy was honed during a youth misspent as a street-performer.

Your compere for the evening is Jongleurs regular John Mann.

Tickets £11, or £13 on the door.

A £21 ticket includes a two-course dinner, while a £16.50 ticket includes one course.

Call 0845 4545045, or visit www.doubletreemk.co.uk.

CANNON NEWPORT PAGNELL

THE TIME OF THE MONTH

Sunday, 7pm

Paul Ricketts

IT'S April and this Sunday down at The Time Of The Month comedy club they are ready to fool around.

As if Christmas was just last week they are resurrecting their December show, when the snow and the UK's railway infrastructure got in the way.

So in a first time appearance they welcome back the hilarious Paul Ricketts.

Paul tried his hand as a bird-scarer, chimney sweep, musician, playwright, stage hand and primary school teacher before turning to stand-up comedy on the advice of his therapist.

Paul's distinctive skewed view of the world informs his black 'sub urban' comedy with sharp observations from life, but also racial, cultural and satirical subject, intermingled with strangle tales of ordinary madness.

Tickets available at £2.

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Bletchley

THIS stunning detached executive residence is situated on a large plot in a popular cul-de-sac.

The property has been extended to a very high order and now boasts an impressive entrance hall, a large kitchen/diner, family room, large lounge, utility, WC and study.

To the first floor there are five bedrooms with a modern ensuite to master and a stunning family bathroom.

There is also a self contained annexe with private access which comprises a lounge/ kitchenette, shower room and generous bedroom.

This property enjoys an extensive gravelled private driveway to the front with an 'in and out' driveway and parking for several cars.

Price £500,000.

Further details 01908 240981
or www.taylorsestateagents.co.uk

For your next move find it at www. Homesnow .co.uk

01908 240981
436 Midsummer Boulevard
email: mkexec@taylorscountrywide.co.uk

TAYLORS
Executive Homes

New Bradwell

The Old Walnuts is situated in a private location on a generous plot in New Bradwell close to Wolverton train station. This barn conversion boasts a 36ft lounge/dining room with high vaulted ceilings and exposed beams throughout.

£600,000

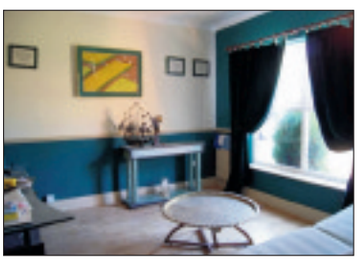
- Barn Conversion
- Five Bedrooms
- Lounge/Dining Room
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Utility Room
- Two Ensuite Bathrooms
- Private Driveway

Furzton

An impressive five bedroom detached residence benefiting from an elevated position overlooking Furzton Lake.

£600,000

- An impressive five bedroom detached residence
- Four receptions
- Three en-suites and family bathroom
- Offering extensive off road parking.
- Detached double garage.



Wavendon Gate

This beautifully presented luxury family home is situated at the end of a cul de sac in the highly sought after area of Wavendon Gate. The property boasts under floor heating to the ground floor and a stunning vaulted ceiling family room to the rear of the property.

£699,000

- 5 Bedroom Detached
- Beautifully Presented
- Five Reception Rooms
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Three Modern En suites
- Private rear garden
- Double Garage

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Kingsmead

- Immaculately presented detached residence
- End of cul de sac location
- Two reception rooms
- Kitchen/breakfast room
- Five bedrooms with built in wardrobes
- Three bathrooms
- Front and rear gardens
- Driveway and garage

£445,000

Shenley Brook End

- Four bedroom detached property
- Separate reception rooms
- Kitchen/breakfast room
- Conservatory
- En suite to master bedroom
- Gardens to front and rear
- Detached double garage

£365,000

Oxley Park

- Immaculately Presented
- Beautifully Located
- Overlooking the North Bucks Way
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Ensuites
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Ample Off Road Parking
- Viewing Highly Recommended

Offers over £400,000

Walnut Tree

- This recently built 4 bedroom detached
- Situated in an attractive cul-de-sac.
- 3 Reception Rooms
- 2 en suites and family bathroom
- Generous dressing room to the master
- Double garage style car port
- Mature and private gardens to the rear

£450,000

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TAYLORS Central

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436 Midsummer Boulevard

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Stantonbury Fields £180,000

- Three Bedroom Detached
- Lounge
- Kitchen Dining Room
- Bathroom
- Driveway and Garage
- Landscaped Rear Garden

Wavendon Gate £48,600

- Shared Ownership
- Two Bedroom Property
- Wavendon Gate Area
- Conservatory
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking
- Double glazed

Oldbrook £55,000

- Two Bedroom Masionette
- Lounge/Diner
- Oldbrook Area
- Shared Ownership
- Gas Radiator Central Heating
- Double Glazing

Willen £299,995

- Five Bedroom Executive Home
- Three Reception Rooms
- En Suite to Master Bedroom
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking & Garage
- No Upper Chain

Woughton on the Green £260,000

- Two Bedroom Apartment
- Lounge
- Kitchen/Dining Room
- En Suite to Master
- Private Communal Gardens
- Allocated Parking

Downs Barn £195,000

- Three Bedrooms Detached
- Cloakroom
- Shower Room/Utility Room
- Lounge/Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Front & Rear Garden

Broughton £59,000

- One Bedroom First Floor Apartment
- Shared Ownership
- Gas to Radiator Heating
- Allocated Parking for One Car
- Double Glazing

Great Holm £245,000

- Three Bedroom Detached
- Lounge and Dining room
- Cloakroom
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Front and Rear Gardens

Willen £330,000

- Five Bedroom Detached Property
- Garage/utility room
- Three Reception Rooms
- Utility Room
- Kitchen/Breakfast Area
- Refitted Ensuite and Family Bathroom

Oakhill OIEO £215,000

- Four Bedroom Town House
- Oakhill Area
- Cloakroom
- Master Ensuite
- Off Road Parking
- Garage
- Front and Rear Gardens

Crownhill £175,000

- Much Improved
- Three Bedroom
- Semi Detached Property
- Gas To Radiator Heating
- Double glazing
- Lounge and Kitchen/Diner

Tattenhoe £191,995

- Three Bedroom
- Semi Detached
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Double Glazing
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Parking & Garage

PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPERY ADDRESS: 111 Shackleton Place, Oldbrook, Milton Keynes MK6 2PJ

We are acting for the mortgagees and have received an offer of £139,950 on the above property. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.

Browns Wood £155,000

- Two Bedroom Semi Detached
- Kitchen
- Lounge
- Bathroom
- Rear Garden
- Two Allocated Parking Spaces

Caldecotte £380,000

- Four Bedroom Executive Detached
- Three Reception Rooms
- Three Bathrooms
- Generous Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking
- Detached Double Garage
- Viewing Recommended

Tinkers Bridge £320,000

- Unique and spacious Four/Six Bedroom Bungalow
- Self contained annexe
- Master with en suite and dressing room
- Conservatory
- Three reception rooms
- Gardens and Off road parking

TAYLORS Central

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Tel: 01908 678151
email: centralmiltonkeynes@taylorscountrywide.co.uk

Broughton OIEO £155,000

- Well Presented
- End of Terrace
- Two Bedrooms
- Conservatory
- Rear Garden
- Viewing Recommended

Oldbrook OIEO £162,000

- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Kitchen and Lounge
- Conservatory/Family Room
- Shower Room
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Driveway and Garage

Central Milton Keynes £220,000

- Two Bedroom
- Spacious Apartment
- Central Location
- Underfloor Heating
- En Suite to Master
- Underground Parking

Wavendon OIEO £210,000

- Ground Floor Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- Refitted Kitchen
- Refitted Bathroom
- Refitted Ensuite to Master
- Garage & Allocated Parking

Monkston OIEO £210,000

- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Lounge/Diner
- Refitted Bathroom
- Garden
- Driveway and Garage

Ashland OIEO £210,000

- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Refitted Kitchen/Diner
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Ensuite to Master
- Rear Garden & Parking

Emerson Valley OIEO £150,000

- Terraced Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Gas to Radiator Heating
- Kitchen/Diner
- Garden
- Garage

Bolbeck Park OIEO £180,000

- Three Bedroom
- Semi Detached
- Re- Fitted Cloakroom
- Lounge
- Kitchen/ Dining Room
- Refitted Bathroom
- Front & Rear Garden

Two Mile Ash £160,000

- Four Bedroom House
- Separate Reception Rooms
- Downstairs WC
- Ensuite to Master Bedroom
- Gardens
- Off Road parking
- No Upper Chain

Oldbrook £185,000

- Four bedroom detached
- Lounge and Dining room
- Kitchen and Utility room
- Cloakroom
- Single garage
- Gardens

Great Linford £340,000

- Four Bedroom Detached House
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Separate Reception Rooms
- Ensuite to Master
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Driveway and Garage

Fishermead £124,500

- Two Bedrooms
- Garage
- Fishermead Area
- Front and Rear Gardens
- No Upper Chain

Bradwell Common £237,995

- Four Bedroom Semi Detached
- Cloakroom
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Front & Rear Garden

Pennyland £185,000

- Well Presented & Extended
- Four Bedroom
- End of Terrace
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking

Bradwell Common £210,000

- Four Bedrooms
- Link Detached Property
- Cul-De-Sac Location
- Off Road Parking
- Garage
- Gardens

Oldbrook £222,500

- Much Improved
- Three Bedroom
- Link Detached
- Double Glazing
- Gas Radiator Heating
- En Suite To Master
- Garage & Garden

WOLVERTON OFFICE

2 Stratford Road, Wolverton

Tel: 01908 312623

email: wolverton@taylorscountrywide.co.uk

TAYLORS Estate Agents

STONY STRATFORD OFFICE

36 High Street, Stony Stratford

Tel: 01908 563825

email: stonystratford@taylorscountrywide.co.uk

Greenleys £215,000

- Detached
- Four Bedrooms
- Cloakroom
- Utility Room
- Separate Reception Rooms
- Conservatory
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Garage

Public Notice £134,950

Mortgagees in possession are now in receipt of an offer for the sum of £128,000.00 for 27 North Way, Deanshanger, Milton Keynes, MK19 6NF. Anyone wishing to place an offer on the property should contact Taylors East (Countrywide), 36 High Street Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK11 1AF 01908 563825 before exchange of contracts or within the next 7 days, whichever is sooner.

Deanshanger £250,000

- Very Well Presented
- Four Bedroom
- Three Storey
- Detached Home
- En Suite To Master
- Cloakroom
- Single Garage
- Garden

Wolverton £129,995

- End of terrace property
- Two bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen/breakfast room
- Family bathroom
- Rear garden

Wolverton Guide £164,995

- Well Presented
- Three Bedroom
- Victorian Terrace
- Gas Radiator Heating
- Double Glazing (where specified)
- Viewing Recommended

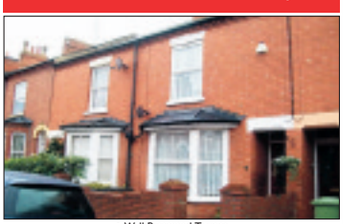
Yardley Gobion OIEO £195,000

- Semi Detached
- Four Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- Study
- Conservatory
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking
- Garage

Deanshanger OIEO £210,000

- Well presented and extended property
- Four bedrooms
- En suite to master bedroom
- Re-fitted kitchen/diner
- Study
- Downstairs cloakroom
- Gardens to front and rear
- Garage and off road parking

Wolverton Guide £170,000

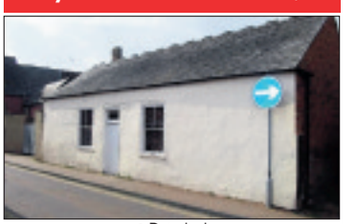


- Well Presented Terrace
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Refitted Shower Room
- Rear Garden
- Single Garage
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating

New Bradwell OIEO £125,000

- Well Presented
- Two Bedrooms
- Victorian Mid Terrace Property
- Refitted Family Bathroom
- Front and Rear Gardens

Stony Stratford Guide £125,000



- Detached
- Grade II listed
- Garden
- No Upper Chain
- Currently commercial Use

Old Stratford Offers Over £200,000

- Semi Detached
- Four Bedrooms
- Refitted Kitchen/Diner
- Ensuite
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Extended

Wolverton Guide Price £139,995

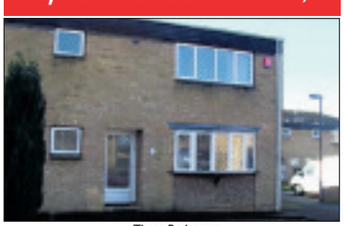
- Two Bedroom
- Terraced Home
- Gas Radiator Heating
- Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking
- No Upper Chain

Call 01908 312623 to view

New Bradwell Guide £175,000

- Very Well Presented
- Three Bedroom
- End of Terrace
- Two Reception Rooms
- Refitted Shower Room
- Front & Rear Gardens

Stony Stratford Offers Over £140,000



- Three Bedrooms
- Semi Detached Propetry
- No Upper Chain
- One Recepetion Room
- Garage
- Gardens

Wanted! Four bedroom detached in Old Stratford for waiting buyers.

www.taylorsestateagents.co.uk

www.mortgagescountrywide.co.uk

propertywide.co.uk Zoopla.co.uk rightmove.co.uk Ombudsman OFT Approved code

TAYLORS Estate Agents

BLETCHLEY OFFICE
161 Queensway, Bletchley

Tel: 01908 370861
email: bletchley@taylorscountrywide.co.uk

Bletchley Guide £125,000

- Recently Built
- Two Bedroom
- First Floor
- Maisonette
- En Suite To Master
- Allocated Parking

Rickley Lane Guide £400,000

- Well presented and spacious
- Four bedroom detached
- Three reception rooms
- Kitchen and utility
- Detached double garage
- Master bedroom with en suite
- Gardens and off road parking

Eaton Mill OIRO £199,995

- Detached Bungalow
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- Utility Room
- Front and Rear Garden
- Driveway
- Garage

Bletchley Park Guide £125,000

- First floor apartment
- Two double bedrooms
- En suite
- Lounge/diner
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Allocated parking

Rivers Estate £99,995

- End of Terrace
- Three bedrooms
- Vacant
- Refurbished
- Garden

Bletchley £115,000

- End Terrace
- Lounge
- Kitchen Dining Room
- Bathroom
- Rear Garden

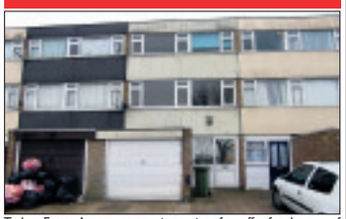
Public Notice

42 Water Eaton Road, Bletchley, Milton Keynes MK2 3BX.

We are acting in the sale of the above property and have recieved an offer of £105,000.

Any interested parties must submit any higher offers to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.

Public Notice



Taylors Estate Agents are now in receipt of an offer for the sum of £80,000 for 29 Arrow Place, Bletchley, Milton Keynes, MK2 3PE.

Anyone wishing to place an offer on the property should contact Taylors Estate Agents, 161 Queensway, Bletchley, Milton Keynes MK2 2DZ Tel: 01908 370861 before exchange of contracts.

Bletchley OIEO £175,000

- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Annex
- No Upper Chain
- Separate Reception Rooms
- Rear Garden
- Garage

Aspley Guise £355,950

- Four Bed End of Terrace
- Conservatory
- Downstairs WC
- Out Building
- Off Road parking for at least three cars
- Larger than average Double Garage
- Aspley Guise Area
- Front and Rear Gardens

Bletchley Guide £130,000

- Mid terraced home
- Three bedrooms
- Re-fitted kitchen/diner
- Gardens to front and rear
- Garage in block

Emerson Valley £119,995

- End of terrace home
- Lounge with spiral staircase
- Kitchen
- Bedroom
- Re-fitted bathroom
- Garden
- Off road parking

Bletchley Park £297,000

- Detached House
- Four Bedrooms
- Separate Reception Rooms
- Study
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Utility Room
- Ensuite to Master
- Driveway and Garage

Racecourses £180,000

- Three Bedrooms
- Detached House
- Popular Location
- Off Road Parking
- Detached Garage

Mr and Mrs C require a three bedroom detached property on the Saints Estate. Can you help? Please call 01908 370861 for an up to date market valuation.

Mrs Q requires a four bedroom detached property on the Manor Park Estate. Can you help? Please call 01908 370861 for an up to date market valuation.

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www.mortgagescountrywide.co.uk

propertywide.co.uk Zoopla.co.uk rightmove.co.uk Ombudsman OFT Approved code

TAYLORS Estate Agents

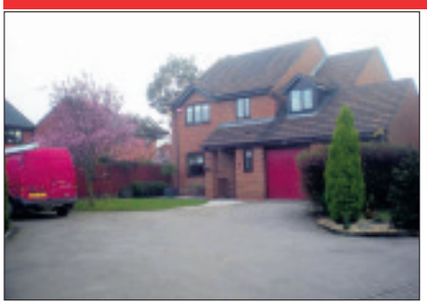
WESTCROFT OFFICE
4 Barnsdale Drive, Westcroft, Milton Keynes

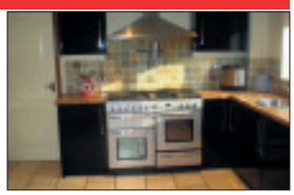
Tel: 01908 524456
email: westcroft@taylorscountrywide.co.uk

Shenley Church End OIEO £169,000

- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Driveway
- Garage

Furzton £329,995





Detached Property
Four Bedrooms
Cloakroom
Separate Reception Rooms
Refitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room
Refitted Family Bathroom
Double Garage and Driveway
Garden

Furzton £150,000

- Three Bedroom Property
- Cloakroom
- Kitchen/Diner
- Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking

Oxley Park OIEO £400,000

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Lounge/Dining Room
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Two Ensuites
- Detached Double Garage
- Off Road Parking

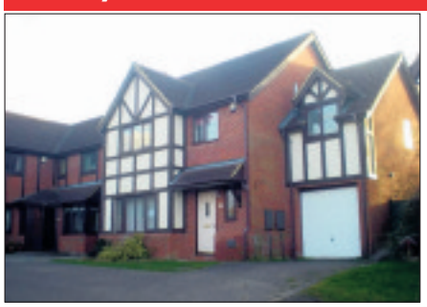
Public Notice £150,000

We have received an offer of £146,000 on the above property. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.

Emerson Valley £235,000

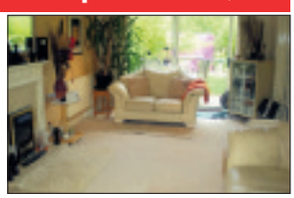
- Extended
- Three Bedroom
- Semi Detached Home
- Popular Area
- 18ft Family Room
- Utility Room
- Cloakroom
- Garage and Gardens

Shenley Brook End £255,000



- Detached
- Four Bedrooms
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Separate Reception Rooms
- Conservatory
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Master Bedroom with Ensuite
- Garden
- Driveway and Garage

Kingsmead Guide price £350,000



- Well Presented
- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Ensuite to Master
- Driveway and Double Garage
- Front and Rear Gardens

Furzton OIRO £300,000

- Well presented
- Detached property
- Four double bedrooms
- Ensuite to master
- Utility room and cloakroom
- Front and rear gardens
- Driveway and garage
- Viewing recommended

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www.mortgagescountrywide.co.uk

propertywide.co.uk Zoopla.co.uk rightmove.co.uk
Ombudsman OFT Approved code

NEWPORT PAGNELL OFFICE

87 High Street, Newport Pagnell

Tel: 01908 611966

email: newportpagnell@taylorscountrywide.co.uk

TAYLORS Estate Agents

OLNEY OFFICE

26a Market Place, Olney

Tel: 01234 713333

email: olney@taylorscountrywide.co.uk

Blakelands £575,000

NEW INSTRUCTION

Taylors Estate Agents are delighted to offer for sale this fully refurbished four bedroom detached with over sized garage, set in about a 1/4 of an acre in the sought after non estate location of Blakelands, Milton Keynes.

Harrold O.I.E.O £235,000

- Well Presented
- Four Bedrooms
- Popular Village Location
- En Suite To Master
- Rear Garden
- No Upper Chain

Lavendon £325,000

NEW INSTRUCTION

- Detached
- Four Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- En suite
- Gardens
- Driveway and Garage

Olney £195,000

NEW INSTRUCTION

- Pegasus Development
- Close to Olney Market Square
- One Bedroom Ground Floor Apartment
- Communal Entrance
- Conservatory
- Private Rear Garden
- No Upper Chain

Newport Pagnell £175,000

NEW INSTRUCTION

- Three Bedroom Property
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Lounge/Diner
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Gardens to Front & Rear
- Allocated off Road Parking

Newport Pagnell £160,000

NEW INSTRUCTION

- Terraced
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- Kitchen/Breakfast
- Garden
- Off Road Parking

Lavendon £165,000

- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Driveway
- Garage

Bozeat £250,000

- Immaculately Presented
- Former Telephone Exchange
- Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Dining Room
- Lounge
- Family bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Garage

Giffard Park £80,000

NEW INSTRUCTION

- Three Bedroom Property
- Shared Ownership
- Giffard Park Area
- Off Road Parking
- Double Glazing
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Lounge/Diner

Newport Pagnell £185,000

NEW INSTRUCTION

- Two Bedroom
- Semi Detached Bungalow
- Kitchen
- Lounge
- Conservatory
- Shower Room
- Garage
- Driveway

Harrold £204,995

- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Rear Lobby
- Cloakroom
- Bathroom
- En suite
- Rear Garden

URGENTLY REQUIRED
Two, Three, and Four bedroom properties in Yardley Hastings. Please Call 01234 713333

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www.mortgagescountrywide.co.uk

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TAYLORS New Homes

NEW HOMES OFFICE
436 Midsummer Boulevard

Tel: 01908 677227
email: mknewhomes@taylorscountrywide.co.uk

REDUCED BY £75,000 £425,000

- Brand new cottage style 4 bedroom detached home.
- Set in this executive small development in this popular village.
- Boasting a large cover ported drive for numerous cars
- Established trees to the garden boundary.
- The village has an excellent school reputation
- Train service to London within walking distance.
- The benefits of a traditional village

NEW IN LAVENDON VILLAGE £189,995

- Just two rarely available brand new 3 bedroom semi detached homes.
- Enjoying an elevated position with rural views to the front.
- Each home enjoys a high standard specification.
- The layout has the popular kitchen/diner arrangement with patio doors onto the garden.
- The village lies just outside Olney and offers a good range of amenities.
- It also benefits from access to Bedford and Northampton.

STRIKING CRESCENT OF LARGE TOWN HOUSES £299,995

- 4 Bedroom show home now open
- Kitchen/Breakfast room with bay window
- Study and Master Bedroom have Juliet balcony
- Covered drive to garage
- Loacted near Kingston centre

NEW DEVELOPMENT WALTON GRANGE £219,950

- 3 Bedroom home
- High specification
- Master bedroom has an en suite
- Allocated parking
- Popular East Milton Keynes
- Internals from show home
- SHOW HOME NOW OPEN

WALTON GRANGE, NEAR CALDECOTTE LAKE £325,000

- The Caldecotte
- Brand new 4 bedroom detached home
- Open plan kitchen dining area
- Undercroft double parking
- Close to Kingston Centre
- Picture show detached, plot for sale is a semi

READY TO VIEW £139,995

- Amenities are available within walking distance.
- The apartments are now finished and ready to NOW
- Boasts double bedrooms and a spacious living room.
- The convenience of the A5 trunk road a short drive.

RARELY AVAILABLE 3 BEDROOMS £230,000

- Brand semi detached 3 bedroom
- Large lounge with bay window
- En suite with double sized shower to the master bedroom
- Ideal lake side location
- Completion expected July

APARTMENT WITH BALCONY £156,495

- Fantastic new corner apartment (The Barragan) with large terrace/balcony from the living room.
- In addition there are two double bedrooms and an en suite from the master bedroom.
- Allocated parking is to the rear.
- Ideally located on the east of Milton Keynes catchment and quick access onto the M1.
- Internal photos from a similar development.

SPACIOUS HOME ON RIVERSIDE DEVELOPMENT £229,995

- One of our most spacious new homes in this price range.
- Offering versatile 3 or 4 bedrooms, kitchen/diner
- 22ft max living room, en-suite and bathroom, utility room and under croft carport.
- If you want lots of space, you must view.
- Ready now.
- Set on a riverside development on the fringe of the city.
- Ideally located just off the A5 trunk road.

LAST ONE REMAINING £145,000

- 2 Double bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms
- Open plan living/kitchen area
- Comtemporary design
- East Miltron Keynes, great access to M1

5 BEDROOM DETACHED HOUSE £320,000

- 5 bedroom home
- 3 bath/shower rooms
- Most bedrooms are double sized
- Garage with generous driveway
- Offering excellent access to M1

FEW REMAINING £230,000

- 4 Bedroom brand new home
- End of terrace
- Fantastic open plan kitchen/ dining/ family room
- Open car port with parking for 2 cars
- Ready now

NEW PHASE RELEASED £147,950

- 2 Bedrooms with en suites
- Patio doors onto residents gardens
- Parking space
- Easy walk to train station
- Some include carpets and blinds
- Arrange a viewing now

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Advertorial

TAYLORS Estate Agents

Marginal improvements in the Milton Keynes housing market

>> <<

THERE were some modest signs of improvement in the property market during February, with buyer, tenant and mortgage applications all increasing; according to Countrywide, the UK's largest Property Services Group.

Across the UK, property viewings - one of the leading indicators of buyer appetite - increased by 40 percent in February. The number of UK sales agreed also rose 47 percent in February.

Closer to home, leading local agent Taylors has also seen an increase in demand for properties across Milton Keynes.

Matthew Giggs, Taylors Regional Director said: "We're seeing more serious buyers entering the market, with realistically priced properties being snapped up. There is a greater level of demand for all property types.

"The buy-to-let market also remains an attractive source of investment with tenant demand also on the increase. Across the UK, tenant demand jumped by 11 percent, with over 19,000 new tenants registering for rental accommodation in February."

Countrywide is the UK's largest mortgage broker, which saw a 40 percent increase in mortgage applications during February.

Fixed rate mortgages dominated Countrywide's Top 10 Most Popular Mortgages with 9 out of 10 products being fixed rates. The findings are based on the activities of more than 650 mortgage consultants, which includes ateam of dedicated advisors operating throughout Taylors offices

Peter Thorpe, Financial Services Area Manager, added: "We've seen a new exclusive range of mortgage products become available in the last month with competitive rates to help those with smaller deposits.

"The popularity of these exclusive purchase products are making the prospect of owning a home for buyers with a smaller deposits across Milton Keynes a reality.

Our Consultants can offer competitive rates that you won't find elsewhere on the high street and specialist advice for key workers, landlords, investors and local home owners looking to remortgage."

www.taylorsestateagents.co.uk

www.bellway.co.uk

Fields End,
Fields Road,
Wootton, Beds
MK43 9JH

Think you can't sell your home?
Think again

2 bedroom houses from only £169,995
3 bedroom houses from only £214,995
4 bedroom houses from only £239,995

Call: 01234 764 462
Visit: Sales centre open
Friday to Monday 10am - 5pm
and Thursday 12 noon - 7pm.

PART EXCHANGE*
The key to an easier move

Home of the Week!
Plot 34 The Tweed - 3 bedroom home including flooring and turfed garden.
WAS £223,995 NOW £214,995

Bellway

*Terms and conditions apply. A full list of items included is available from our sales office on site, please call for details. Price correct at print date. Specification on site may differ. We reserve the right to refuse a part exchange, terms and conditions can be found at www.bellway.co.uk

www.squaresestateagents.co.uk

squares
the estate agent.

The Estate Agent

Bletchley
01908 375444
204A Queensway, Bletchley, MK2 2ST

WALNUT TREE £36,000

- 35 % SHARED OWNERSHIP
- STUDIO APARTMENT
- RE FITED KITCHEN
- RE FITTED BATHROOM
- DOUBLE GLAZED
- ALLOCATED PARKING
- VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

BLETCHLEY £79,950

- TERRACE
- 3 BEDROOMS
- KITCHEN
- SEPARATE RECEPTION ROOMS
- BATHROOM
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- FULLY ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- IN NEED OF MODERNISATION
- REPOSSESSION

BLETCHLEY £264,995

OPEN MORNING ON
2nd APRIL AT
1 GANTON CLOSE, BLETCHLEY
BETWEEN
10am AND 12noon.
DON'T MISS OUT!

- DETACHED
- 4 BEDROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN
- UTILITY ROOM
- SEPARATE RECEPTION ROOMS
- CLOAKROOM
- WALK IN WARDROBE & EN SUITE TO MASTER BEDROOM
- FULLY ENCLOSED GARDENS
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- DOUBLE GLAZED
- DOUBLE GARAGE
- DRIVEWAY

EAGLESTONE OVER £125,000

- TERRACE
- THREE BEDROOMS
- KITCHEN / DINER
- LOUNGE
- CLOAKROOM
- DOUBLE GLAZED
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

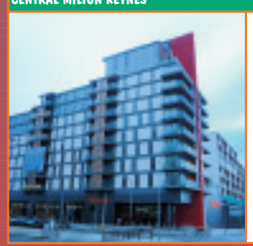
NETHERFIELD £129,995

- TERRACE
- 3 BEDROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN
- LOUNGE
- DOWNSTAIRS CLOAKROOM
- BATHROOM
- FULLY ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- GARAGE
- DOUBLE GLAZED
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

WEST BLETCHLEY £147,500

- TERRACE
- 3 BEDROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN
- LOUNGE
- DINING AREA
- STUDY
- CONSERVATORY
- BATHROOM WITH SEPARATE TOILET
- GARDEN
- DOUBLE GLAZED
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING

CENTRAL MILTON KEYNES £154,995



- INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY
- 1 BEDROOM
- LUXURY APARTMENT
- FULLY FURNISHED
- SITTING TENANT
- FITTED KITCHEN
- OPEN PLAN LOUNGE & BALCONY
- UNDERGROUND PARKING
- 24 HOUR CONCIERGE
- CENTRAL MILTON KEYNES

WEST BLETCHLEY GUIDE PRICE £159,995

- SEMI DETACHED
- 3 BEDROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- 3 RECEPTION ROOM
- CONVERTED GARAGE
- UTILITY AREA
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- FULLY ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- IN NEED OF MODERNISING

BLETCHLEY £174,995

- DETACHED
- THREE BEDROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN
- OPEN PLAN LOUNGE /DINER
- STUDY
- WORKING FIRE PLACE
- LEAN TO CONSERVATORY
- FULLY ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- GARAGE
- DRIVEWAY

STACEY BUSHES £174,995

- DETACHED
- 4 BEDROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- SEPARATE RECEPTION ROOMS
- CLOAKROOM
- CONSERVATORY
- FULLY ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- DOUBLE GLAZED
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- GARAGE
- DRIVEWAY

NEWPORT PAGNELL £187,500

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

- SEMI DETACHED
- 3 BEDROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN
- OPEN PLAN LOUNGE / DINER
- BATHROOM
- FULLY ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- 1.5 LENGTH GARAGE
- DOUBLE GLAZED

BLETCHLEY £244,950

- DETACHED
- 4 BEDROOM
- SEPARATE RECEPTION ROOMS
- CLOAKROOM
- STUDY
- RE FITTED BATHROOM
- RE FITTED EN SUITE TO MASTER BEDROOM
- CONSERVATORY
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- Weekly colour advertising & advertising on rightmove.co.uk
- 12 Branch network
- Not just people who are good at selling but qualified Estate Agents.
- 1169 prospective purchasers registered with Goodchilds in the last 90 days
- NO Sale NO Fee - you do not pay Goodchilds a penny if we do not sell your home.

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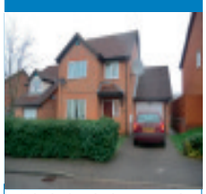

4 bed detached property in Shenley Church End. Fitted kitchen, 2 receptions, additional downstairs toilet, garden. Quiet location.

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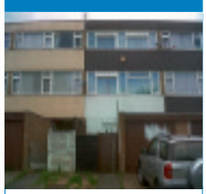

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WOBURN SANDS £775pcm

A well presented one bedroom second floor apartment with off road parking close to local facilities. Unfurnished. Available 07/04.

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A three bedroom detached bungalow surrounded by open countryside with views over Wavendon Golf Course. Unfurnished. Available 06/04.

ASPLEY GUISE £775pcm

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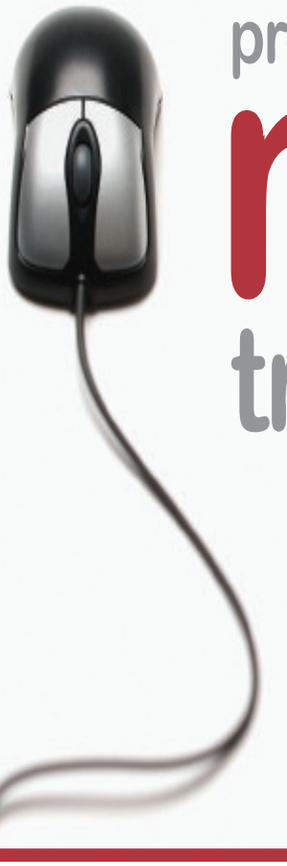

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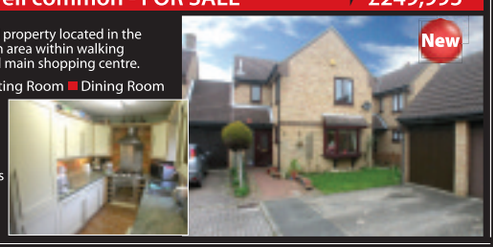

Bradwell Village - FOR SALE £205,000

The owners have completely renovated and decorated this three bedroom house to a very high standard.
■ Hall ■ Cloaks/WC ■ Sitting Room ■ Dining Room ■ Refitted Kitchen ■ Utility Room ■ Master Bedroom with wardrobes ■ Bath room with shower ■ Garage ■ Front and Rear Gardens

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Probate

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■ Hall ■ Cloaks/WC ■ Sitting room ■ Refitted kitchen ■ Bathroom ■ Front and rear gardens ■ Allocated parking

Passmore £1150 PCM PF

A five bedroom detached property.
■ WC/cloakroom ■ Lounge/dining area ■ Kitchen ■ Conservatory ■ Rear garden ■ Double garage

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A two bedroom property situated with views of the canal.
■ Hall ■ Kitchen ■ Lounge/Diner ■ Bathroom ■ Parking ■ Rear garden

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Bolbeck Park £750 PCM PF

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We are seeking an enthusiastic individual who can demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of plants combined with previous experience of working in a garden centre or plant nursery. Candidates must have excellent communication skills, be highly organised and able to work equally well independently or as part of a team. Basic computer skills are also required.

The successful applicant will work 4 days/week plus alternate weekends. Salary is negotiable, dependent on experience, and benefits include staff discount.

To apply, please email your CV to info@roxtongardencentre.co.uk

Alternately, post to Mrs Lorraine Dakin, Director, Roxton Garden Centre, Bedford Road, Roxton, Beds, MK44 3DY.

ROXTON GARDEN CENTRE

HMC Independent Co-educational Day School 1200 pupils 7-18 years

Bedford Modern School

TEACHER OF PHYSICS

Required for September 2011

We require an outstanding and well qualified teacher to join a highly successful team of five specialist Physicists in a thriving department. All our students take GCSE Physics as a separate science, whilst numbers at A level are in excess of 100.

The person appointed will teach Physics across the 11-18 age range of the Senior School.

The successful candidate will wish to participate in and contribute to the School's extensive co-curricular programme.

Closing date for applications:

Applications are encouraged as early as possible, but by mid-day 1.4.11 at the latest.

Further details of the post and an application form can be downloaded from the 'Job Opportunities' link on our website: **www.bedmod.co.uk**

or requested via email from: **personnel@bedmod.co.uk**

Completed applications are to be returned to:

The HR Officer
Bedford Modern School
Manton Lane
Bedford MK41 7NT

The School is committed to the safeguarding of children and adopts recruitment procedures that promote their safety and well being. All posts are subject to enhanced CRB clearance.

The Bedford Charity includes in its aims provision for high quality education for boys and girls. Reg. Charity 204817

be involved.

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To apply please send CV including current salary to: Mrs A Thomsen, Templecoombe Ltd, The Old Maltings, 102a High Street, Olney, Bucks, MK46 4BE or email: alex.thomsen@templecoombe.co.uk

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Required

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Flexibility required.

The successful applicant will have excellent communication and interpersonal skills along with computer knowledge and the abilty to work as part of a team.

To apply please email your CV with a covering letter to: eileen@specialistpower.com

Closing date for applications is Friday 8th April 2011

Stagecoach EAST

PART TIME PCV DRIVERS

required for school coach journeys, working Monday to Friday school days only, £60 a day.

If interested please call our recruitment line on 07711 950148.

Closing Date: 12/04/11

Aspley Guise & Woburn Sands Golf Club

Catering Franchise Opportunity

With a membership of 590, the catering franchise offers an attractive and viable business opportunity for a competent and experienced caterer.

The Club is now inviting applications from suitably qualified persons to enter into a Franchising Agreement to provide Catering Facilities for the Club.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate an aptitude to develop the business, hold the relevant Food Hygiene qualifications, be highly motivated and have experience in providing a first rate standard of restaurant service, together with a daily bar snack and light meal facility.

Please Contact:
The Secretary/Manager
Aspley Gusie & Woburn Sands Golf Club
Aspley Guise, Milton Keynes MK17 8DX
Tel: 01908 583596
Email: Secretary@aspleyguisegolfclub.co.uk

Working*together to achieve success.

Bedford College is a growing and highly successful provider of further, adult and higher education, with 18,000 students from over 100 nationalities, 750 staff and excellent financial health. Recognised as 'outstanding' by Ofsted and rated five star by the European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM), there has never been a more exciting time to join us as we strive to become a world-class centre for qualifications, skills and training.

Business Development Adviser
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Closing Date 11 April 2011

"It feels great to be working to benefit the local community in a job which is as diverse as the people I work with..."

Kalsoom Amin
Careers Adviser

Bedford College offers a final salary pension scheme, generous holiday entitlement and financially supported continuous professional development opportunities. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. For further information on these positions and to find out about working at Bedford College, visit **www.workingtogetherjobs.co.uk**

***for our students *for each other *for you**

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Men in childhood education

Ever thought of working in childcare?

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/childcare tel: 01908 254529

Martin Jackson (pictured above) succeeded in completing his Men in Childcare course and is now working at the Milton Keynes College Early Years Nursery. He obtained Community Studies Student of the Year in 2009.

Milton Keynes Council and Milton Keynes College are offering an Induction Course which could lead to a qualification for men looking to work in childcare. These courses start in April and September and are fully funded by Milton Keynes Council.

No qualifications are needed.

There will be a briefing session held at the college before the courses commence.

For more information and to find out dates for the briefing sessions, please contact the Early Years Workforce Team on 01908 254529 or email growchildcare@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Milton Keynes COLLEGE

MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL

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Pig Stockperson

To maintain and develop excellent levels of animal husbandry and welfare; achieve high levels of productivity and best practice. Previous livestock experience is essential; weekend working and a full driving license are required. Closing date 30th March 2011

For further information please contact the HR Department, Bedfordia Farms Ltd (part of Bedfordia Group plc), Milton Parc, Milton Ernest, Beds, MK44 1YU; 01234 827245 or apply online at www.bedfordia.co.uk. No Agencies

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Closing date: 1 April 2011. Interview date: 12 April 2011.
For further information and an application form, please visit our website.

www.rspb.org.uk/vacancies

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RUSHMOOR SCHOOL
Independent Day School
(280 pupils, boys 3-16 years, co-educational 3-11)

Rushmoor is a small independent school. Located in Bedford for over 90 years our aim is to provide the best opportunities for every pupil in order for them to reach their maximum potential. Rushmoor was delighted to receive an overall excellent Inspection Report in November 2010 and this can be accessed from our website. Average class size is 16.

We are seeking to recruit enthusiastic and dedicated teachers to lead their subject throughout the school, including GCSE, for the following posts:

Head of Design Technology
Head of Music
(Both required September 2011)

The successful candidates will be highly motivated and should be prepared to contribute towards extra curricular activities.

Details of both posts and an application form can be downloaded from our website via the TES HireWire link in Staff Vacancies under About Us. Alternatively please contact the Head Teacher's PA, Mrs Mary Austin, for further details.

Application deadline for both posts: Sunday 24 April 2011

58/60 Shakespeare Road, Bedford MK40 2DL
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Email: heads_pa@rushmoorschool.co.uk
www.rushmoorschool.co.uk

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The Willows School and Early Years Centre

Fishermead Boulevard, Fishermead,
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"To become honest, active citizens and lifelong learners in a global society."

KS1/Foundation Stage Teacher

MPS, Permanent, Start Date 1st September 2011

The Willows School and Early Years Centre comprises our thriving Infant school with a Nursery class, our "outstanding" Pebbles Children's Centre and a private Day Nursery.

We are looking for a creative and dynamic classroom teacher with a passion for children's learning to join our team. Initially you will be team teaching a Reception class of 45 children.

We are offering an ideal opportunity for the right candidate to advance their career further. If you relish a challenge, have a sense of humour, as well as being an energetic and ambitious teacher who is committed to raising standards, we would love to meet you. Informal visits to the school are very welcome.

Please contact the school office for more details.
Closing date for applications: Monday May 9th
Interview date: Friday May 20th

The school is committed to Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will require an Enhanced CRB check.

E: thewillows@milton-keynes.gov.uk
F: 01908 528804

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YMCA Bedfordshire

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Assistant Team Leader

Prince's Trust Team Programme - Biggleswade

Salary: £16,445 per annum (YMCA salary scale D)
We are looking for a dedicated Assistant Team Leader to support the delivery of Team. Team is a personal development Programme for young people aged between 16 and 25 that develops confidence and motivational skills. Team members work towards a City & Guilds Level 1 qualification.

- With experience of working with young people, you will assist the Team Leader in ensuring that Team members achieve the best outcomes during this active Programme
- You will possess excellent administration and communication skills, have a good standard of written English and enjoy a varied and sometimes challenging workload.
- You will have a full clean driving licence with category D1 (pre-1997 license or subsequent test) to enable you to drive the minibus

Closing date: 5pm Tuesday 5th April. **Interviews:** Monday 11th April
Application Packs are available from our website www.ymcabedfordshire.org.uk Or from Dina Browne: 01234 264104 or e-mail: admin@ymcabedfordshire.org.uk
Applicants must be sympathetic to the Christian aims and purposes of the YMCA. Any appointment will be subject to suitable references and CRB checks. The YMCA is committed to Equal Opportunities and Safer Recruitment practices.
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tracey.crisp@castlehomecare.co.uk

Greenleas Lower School
Derwent Road
Linslade
Leighton Buzzard
Bedfordshire
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greenleaslower@schools.bedfordshire.gov.uk

Deputy Head Teacher

Required for September 2011
ISR 6 - 10

Greenleas Lower School is an 'outstanding' school with caring staff and wonderful children.

We are looking for:

- an outstanding classroom teacher;
- an inspirational and motivating leader;
- a commitment to high standards of achievement and behaviour;
- a sense of humour and the ability to be flexible.

We can offer:

- motivated and enthusiastic children;
- friendly and supportive staff, parents and governors;
- support for your professional development;
- work/life balance.

If you feel you are ready for the opportunity to develop your expertise, please contact Mrs. Sue Wilkins (Office Manager) for further details and an application pack.

Visits to the school are warmly welcomed.

Greenleas Lower School is committed to the promotion of equal opportunities and diversity.

Closing date: 26th April 2011 (12pm)

Interview date: 17th May 2011

Are you looking for a venue for your community club? Greenleas Lower School could be just what you are looking for.

Class Teacher

Commencing September

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We are seeking an experienced, enthusiastic, inspiring and dedicated KS1 Class Teacher to be part of a supportive team.

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For more information contact Barbara Courtney on 01234 369555 bcourtney@harpur-trust.org.uk or visit our website for an application pack. Visits to the school by appointment are welcome.

The closing date for applications is Monday, 11 April at 12 noon. Interviews will be held during week commencing 9 May.

Pilgrims Pre-Preparatory School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.

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caravan wheel clamp £15, Camping Stove small cartridge type £5, caravan heater £10, caravan airbed double £10 call 07925318111

Hotpoint Washing Machine excellent condition digital £134 others available from £99 call 07956 498220/07900 872812

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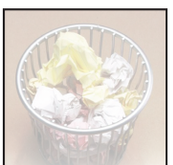

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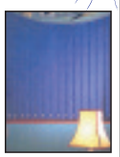

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Public Notices

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL AND BEDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGES AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS (APPROVED PREMISES) REGULATIONS 2005

Central Bedfordshire

The Marriage Act 1994 and the Civil Partnership Act 2004 makes provision for proceedings to take place at any Register Office or building approved under the terms of these Acts which has been granted an Approval by Central Bedfordshire Council and Bedford Borough Council.

A building seeking an Approval should be permanent, secular in nature, have no connection with religion and provide a dignified and seemly location for the celebration of a civil marriage or civil partnership registration. Proceedings may take place between the hours of 8.00 am and 6.00 pm.

Application has been received from the following seeking the approval of the Authority to the premises known as

Tilsworth Golf Club, Dunstable Road, Tilsworth, Leighton Buzzard LU7 9PU

Terrace Room	**Maximum Capacity 100**
Stanbridge Suite	**Maximum Capacity 100**

to be granted Approval under the Act. The Approval, if granted, will be valid for a period of three years from the date of issue, subject to regulation 7, of the aforementioned Regulations.

A copy of the application along with a plan of the premises to which it relates may be seen, free of charge, at the offices of the Registration and Coroner Services Manager for Central Bedfordshire Council and Bedford Borough Council, The Court House, Woburn Street, Ampthill MK45 2HX between 9.00 am and 4.30 pm Mondays to Thursdays and between 9.00 am and 4.00 pm Fridays.

The Authority is considering whether Approval should be granted. Members of the public have the right to object. An objection should be made in writing to the address given below and must be received within 21 days of the date of the publication of this notice. All objections will be considered by the Authority and all objectors will be notified in writing of the final decision.

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL AND BEDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGES AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS (APPROVED PREMISES) REGULATIONS 2005

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Application has been received from the following seeking the approval of the Authority to the premises known as

Luton Hoo, Luton Hoo Park, London Road, Luton LU1 3TQ

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The Philip Tilden Room	**Maximum Capacity 40**
The Arthur Davis Room	**Maximum Capacity 25**
The Charles Mewes Room	**Maximum Capacity 25**
The Capability Brown Room	**Maximum Capacity 60**
The Robert Adam Suite	**Maximum Capacity 120**
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The Stockingswood Room	**Maximum Capacity 72**
Lea/Roding Suite	**Maximum Capacity 390**
Ravensbourne Suite	**Maximum Capacity 340**
Bayford Suite	**Maximum Capacity 100**
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to be granted Approval under the Act. The Approval, if granted, will be valid for a period of **three years** from the date of issue, subject to regulation 7, of the aforementioned Regulations.

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Dated 27/03/2011

CAROLINE RITCHIE, Registration and Coroner Services Manager for Central Bedfordshire Council and Bedford Borough Council, The Court House, Woburn Street, Ampthill MK45 2HX.

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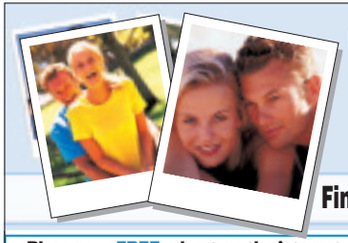

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ATTRACTIVE single mum, 35, brunette, hazel eyes, seeks male, 35-42 for relationship. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 362787**

SANDRA 38, slim blue eyed blonde, tactile, fun, would love to be seduced by genuine, loving guy. Age/looks/race unimportant. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 378298**

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BLONDE tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 384852**

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BEAUTIFUL slim, female, 22, seeks older gent, 65 plus to take care of me. London. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 362201**

SUZANNE 35, beautiful blonde, seeks male for chats and a relaxing glass of wine anytime. ACA, status unimportant. City area. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 342527**

BLONDE widow, slim and active, seeks creative partner in crime to share good times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 372046**

INEXPERIENCED pretty female 18, likes to look after herself and look good, seeks older free spirited male to look after me. Status/race unimportant. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 358161**

FEMALE 27, seeks older gent, 65 plus to take care of me. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 362207**

CURVY sophisticated Irish lady 36, new to the area and lonely, WLTM male up to 69yrs for companionship, cosy nights in/out. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 361379**

LONELY housewife 39, attractive, leggy, blonde, WLTM male for daytime meets. Any age/status. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 363295**

EASYGOING honest female 30, slim, blue eyed and new to this, seeks spontaneous male with plenty of spare time. Any age/status/race. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 358285**

BEAUTIFUL slim, female, 22, seeks older gent, 65 plus to take care of me. London. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 362201**

YOUNG 22yrs old female, loves all sorts of things, seeks male any age. Looks/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 357157**

41YR old blonde, seeking male for uncomplicated mutual friendship with benefits! Any age. Call me you have nothing to lose. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 363301**

BEAUTIFUL slim Malaysian female, 24, seeks retired solvent gent to spoil and pamper for LTR. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 363135**

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WARM loving young girl seeks mature male who is free in the evenings for fun. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 376398**

VERY single, flirty fully figured, confident, sophisticated attractive student, 19, seeking fun in or out with outgoing confident male. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 363299**

TRACY 45, chatty, sociable, friendly, caring, likes nights in/out, TV, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 363193**

SLIM attractive blonde, interesting, looking to further life's experiences with adventurous, male. Any age. Can travel. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 358155**

SLENDER 30yr old nurse, attractive, looking for similar gent for fun nights in and out. Any age. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 360841**

SLIM blonde, no ties, been without for too long! You have nothing to lose and much to gain. Call me. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 375980**

ATTRACTIVE tanned, well groomed blonde 39, looking for good times, pampering, massages and friendship. ACA. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 361751**

6FT blonde leggy ex lingerie model 33, looking for good times with free thinking male. Single dad welcome/Any age. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 361381**

60YR old English lady, seeks genuine gent, 57-64 for friendship, going out, GSOH. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 361723**

FEMALE 25, professional, likes nights out, socialising, seeks male. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 360961**

BARBARA divorced, active, 5ft 7ins, dark hair/eyes, likes cinema, theatre, meals out, holidays, seeks intelligent male with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 346745**

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GENUINE male, 39, likes nights in/out, walks, travel, seeks female, 39-50, looks/size unimportant. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 335487**

AMIKA 12th March, 2011, you blonde, white dress with friends, me DJ booth, tall suited guy, made eye contact 3 times, smiled at each other, please call. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 363167**

STEVEN 50, likes nights in, 5ft 3ins, 8st, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 362789**

DAVID 61, likes sports, reading, writing, seeks female. Bushey. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 362779**

SINGLE professional, good looking male, 5ft 7ins, vegetarian, 51, young looks, seeks younger white female for relationship. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 362927**

PHILIP 31, cool, seeks interesting female with GSOH for fun. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 362759**

ATTRACTIVE blond, blue eyed male, 47, HIV positive, genuine, sincere, GSOH, OHAC, seeks warm, sincere, female. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 362931**

MALE seeks female for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 384890**

33YR old black male, no ties, genuine, decent, GSOH, attractive, honest, seeks similar black/white female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 337041**

SOCIABLE gent, 74, 5ft 9ins, not overweight, not unattractive, nor unintelligent, would cherish the company of a similar lady. Photo exchange welcome. **Tel No: 0905 436 0866 Box No: 361409**

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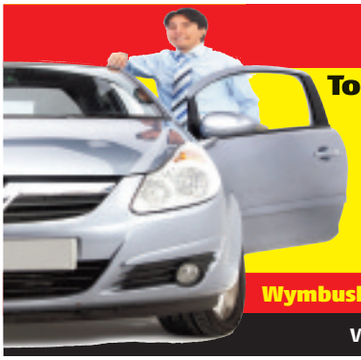

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FIXTURES 2010-11

DONS' SCORE FIRST

August			
7	Walsall	A	2-1
10	Dag & Red H (Carling Cup)	H	2-1
21	Carlisle	A	1-4
24	Blackpool (Carling Cup)	H	4-3
28	Swindon	H	2-1
September			
4	Hartlepool	H	1-0
11	Brighton	A	0-2
15	Southampton	H	2-0
18	Rochdale	H	1-1
21	Birmingham (Carling Cup)	A	1-3
25	Peterborough	A	1-2
28	Charlton	A	0-1
October			
2	Colchester	H	1-1
5	Charlton (JPT)	H	1-2
9	Dag & Red	H	2-0
16	Bournemouth	A	2-3
23	Exeter	H	1-0
30	Tranmere	A	2-4
November			
2	Yeovil	H	3-2
6	Stevenage (FAC)	A	0-0
13	Brentford	A	2-0
16	Stevenage (FAC) (Stevenage win 7-6 on penalties)	H	1-1
20	Sheff Wed	H	1-4
23	Huddersfield	A	1-4
December			
11	Notts County	A	0-2
28	Bournemouth	H	2-0
January			
1	Bristol Rovers	H	2-0
3	Yeovil	A	0-1
8	Exeter	A	1-1
15	Tranmere	H	2-0
18	Plymouth	H	1-3
22	Dag & Red	A	1-0
25	Leyton Orient	A	2-2
February			
2	Bristol Rovers	A	2-1
5	Sheff Wed	A	2-2
12	Brentford	H	1-1
15	Leyton Orient	H	2-3
19	Hartlepool	A	1-0
22	Oldham	H	0-0
26	Brighton	H	1-0
March			
5	Rochdale	A	4-1
8	Charlton	H	2-0
12	Colchester	A	3-1
21	Peterborough	H	1-0
25	Walsall	H	1-1
April			
2	Southampton	A	
9	Carlisle	H	
16	Swindon	A	
22	Huddersfield	H	
25	Plymouth	A	
30	Notts County	H	
May			
7	Oldham	A	

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MK Dons assistant manager JOHN GORMAN writes exclusively for MK NEWS every week

I'M VERY much looking forward to returning to Southampton on Saturday. The second time I was there I was Glenn Hoddle's assistant when they were in the Premier League and at the Old Den but we were actually involved in the development of the new ground, before I went to Tottenham.

Then George Burly took me back to Southampton after I left Northampton. I started off as chief scout and ended up being caretaker boss with Jason Dodd after George left.

I have good memories and bad. The worst memory was in the FA Cup against Bristol Rovers in 2008 and we got beaten in the quarter final.

I thought we should have got through and the fans didn't like it, but it's a lovely club and I really enjoyed being there both times I was there.

But that's all history now and I want to go back there and beat them.

It will be a great atmosphere and I'd like to think we'll bring a good crowd. Their fans make a lot of noise but I think it will suit our team and bring the best out of us.

If we do get promoted, then this is the kind of game that we'll get every week, so we've got to relish it and expect to go there and win it. No disrespect, but there will be better teams than Southampton in the Championship.

We still think we can get into second position but the pressure is all on Southampton. They are the home team and are a bigger club historically.

They expect to get up this year but we beat them convincingly 2-0 at home.

People are still not talking about us in the same vein as Southampton and Peterborough but really, we are right beside them.

It's nice in some ways because the pressure is on other teams. Saying that, we put the pressure on ourselves because there are eight games to go and we want to at least be in the play-offs. If we beat Southampton and get another couple of wins then I think that would confirm us in there.

LEAGUE ONE TABLE

			HOME					AWAY						
1	Brighton	37	15	4	0	45	14	9	4	5	23	13	41	80
2	Huddersfield	39	11	6	3	31	15	9	4	6	30	24	22	70
3	Peterborough	38	13	3	3	57	34	7	3	9	31	30	24	66
4	Southampton	36	11	4	3	33	10	8	4	6	32	21	34	65
5	MK Dons	39	12	5	3	29	17	7	3	9	27	32	7	65
6	Bournemouth	38	12	5	3	43	19	5	6	7	19	22	21	62
7	Leyton Orient	37	10	5	3	33	19	5	7	7	27	31	10	57
8	Rochdale	36	7	6	4	26	22	7	6	6	22	19	7	54
9	Colchester	39	10	6	4	34	28	4	6	9	14	22	-2	54
10	Carlisle	38	8	7	5	30	22	6	3	9	21	27	2	52
11	Brentford	38	9	4	7	23	23	6	3	9	20	25	-5	52
12	Charlton	37	8	5	6	23	26	5	6	7	31	29	-1	50
13	Hartlepool	39	8	4	8	26	28	6	4	9	14	28	-16	50
14	Exeter	38	7	5	6	32	29	6	5	9	22	37	-12	49
15	Oldham	39	7	7	6	27	28	4	7	8	19	26	-8	47
16	Sheff Wed	37	6	5	6	25	22	6	3	11	27	34	-4	44
17	Yeovil	37	5	4	8	17	23	7	4	9	24	31	-13	44
18	Tranmere	37	7	4	7	22	22	4	6	9	19	27	-8	43
19	Notts County	36	9	1	8	21	17	3	5	10	16	27	-7	42
20	Dag & Red	36	6	6	6	22	22	4	5	9	19	28	-9	41
21	Walsall	39	7	2	10	26	30	3	8	9	21	33	-16	40
22	Bristol Rovers	38	5	5	9	20	30	4	5	10	21	42	-31	37
23	Swindon	38	5	8	6	18	21	2	5	12	26	41	-18	34
24	Plymouth	38	7	4	8	22	26	5	3	11	22	36	-18	33

Not including last night's games

Daniel Powell in action against Walsall on Friday night

Loan spells magic for winger Powell

BY JAMES CUNLIFFE
james.cunliffe@LSNmedia.co.uk

ANGELO Balanta has come in for a spot of training ground teasing from Daniel Powell after his shot from two yards against Walsall on Friday hit the bar.

With the score at 1-1 the Queens Park Rangers loanee blasted against the woodwork and though television replays later appeared to show that the ball had crossed the line, it was spotted and MK Dons only came away with a point from a game they had numerous chances to win.

Powell, 20, missed an opportunity in the first half but he hasn't let Balanta live down his goal that never was.

"He should have scored in the first place because he was two yards out," joked the winger, adding: "I have been giving him some stick but he keeps telling me that it was a goal."

Powell last week signed a new two-year deal after enjoying a successful 2011 in which he has played 17 of Dons' 19 games, scoring eight goals.

It has been a remarkable breakthrough into becoming a first team regular for the product of the club's youth set-up and a player who has been loaned out to three different Conference sides in the last two years.

Powell has thanked the hard work and attention of the Milton Keynes coaching staff into making him currently one of the first names on Karl Robinson's team sheet.

"Ever since I've come back from Darlington at Christmas things have started to go to plan. I've worked hard all year and I'm getting my rewards," he said. "John Gorman, the gaffer and Didi Hamann, when he was here, have worked hard with me. The loan spells, even last year at Forest Green, have helped in just getting that experience in the first team, which has helped me learn a lot."

Other players moving to pastures new is something that Powell believes contributed to his chance in the first team.

"It might have helped that players like Jermaine Easter have gone, so that has given me more of a chance," he said. "It's a weird one but I've just hit a bit of form."

On Saturday the Dons travel to fellow promotion-chasing Southampton and Powell thinks that the club can still make second place.

"We'll just take one game at a time but hopefully we can get into the automatic positions," he said. "We've got to beat Southampton on Saturday and then win the remainder of the games, but the play-offs are still a good place to get to."

COMING UP

SOUTHAMPTON

League One
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KO 3pm

VISITORS to the south coast this weekend can be sure of a fiercely-contested encounter, with a win for either side sure to go a long way to securing a play-off spot, or making the case for automatic promotion.

Dons have never beaten the Saints, who are level on points but have three games in hand, but will look to get back to winning ways after missing a hat-full of chances against Walsall on Friday.

Dons midfielder signs new two-year deal with the club

LUKE Chadwick signed a new two-year extension to his contract yesterday.

The MK Dons midfielder initially joined the club on loan from Norwich City in January 2008 before signing permanently four months later.

Last term he was voted player of the season and Karl Robinson was delighted to have secured the former Manchester United man for another two years:

"The fact that he's willing to commit to this football club for another two years shows that we are going in the right direction," he said.

"I'm over the moon with it and it is just as good as signing someone new. He's a fantastic character and a great man to have around the football club."

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Riders pipped in pulsating match

BASKETBALL

Newcastle Eagles 99
MK Lions 82

A DISAPPOINTING defeat for the Lions, coming up against a resurgent Newcastle side.

Newcastle were ahead from the outset and were soon 13-4 up. Demarius Bolds brought the Lions back into it and his three-pointer made it a one possession game at 18-15 with two minutes to play in the period, but the Eagles maintained a 25-19 edge.

They quickly restored their double-digit advantage early in the second stanza, and the visitors were out of sorts as head coach Mike New calmed his young charges down with a time out before Bolds brought the Lions back once more as he scored six in an 8-2 burst just before the half, making the score 53-37.

The Eagles decided the game with a 7-0 burst to lead 83-68, but with 6.40 remaining it looked like the Lions might close again, Travis Nelson finding his way to a couple of dunks and Washington getting to the rim, but free throws for the home side settled things.

MK Lions 99
Leicester Riders 98

IN A pulsating encounter, the Lions secured a narrow win over the East Midlands club.

The Riders had the better of the early stages, leading 13-28 late in the first quarter.

But Lions trimmed the gap to 22-31 as Lawrence Brown and Connor Washington led the charge to the end of the quarter, assisted by three-point bombs from Yorick Williams.

Things tightened to 37-37 midway through the second period, as Bolds continued his drives to the basket.

Nothing could separate the sides at the end of the third quarter as Travis Nelson's bucket made it 77-77.

Riders twice led by four in the final stanza but each time the Lions would not step back, a dunk from Nelson and a spinning move from Bolds and it was tight again.

Leicester made two free throws for a 98-97 lead with 16 seconds remaining, but the impressive Bolds had the last word to give Lions a dramatic victory with a spinning move to the basket ending any chances the Riders would have.

■ Lions face Newcastle Eagles tonight at home, tip-off 7.30pm.

Yorick Williams: Three-point bombs

MOTOR RACING

Vettel by a mile

SEBASTIAN Vettel started the new Formula One season as he finished last year, with a crushing victory at the Australian Grand Prix.

The Red Bull driver's margin of victory in Melbourne was a yawning 22 seconds to McLaren's Lewis Hamilton with Vitaly Petrov finishing third to take a podium place for the first time in his F1 career.

Vettel won from pole, leaving Hamilton trailing at the start even though his Red Bull was not equipped with the KERS power-boost system.

But he need not worry about that because on the evidence of Sunday's performance his Tilbrook based Red Bull car is well ahead of his rivals.

"I am very happy because all of us, the whole team and myself, we had a lot of fun winning the Australian Grand Prix," said Vettel.

"It is always very nice to come here. The atmosphere is something special. You do the drivers' parade and see the people going crazy. To see so many people coming and cheering for our sport, that is something we don't get everywhere."

It was only first race of the season, but the signs are ominous, although Vettel dismissed any suggestion of early superiority.

"I don't really like the word dominant at this stage to be honest because there is a long, long way to go," said Vettel. "But we learned a lot of things and it's good coming here after a long winter and setting the pace."

Red Bull's Sebastian Vettel leads the chasing pack in Melbourne

Team mate Mark Webber, on home turf again, was unable to finish any higher than fifth dispite starting third on the grid.

Lightning lose leads to end pointless

ICE HOCKEY

Basingstoke Bison 4
MK Lightning 3

TWO games which promised so much for Lightning ultimately failed to deliver any points for the team.

On Saturday Lightning let slip a two-goal lead to leave Basingstoke empty handed, and their opponents for next weekend's EPL play-off quarter finals with the momentum.

Without their influential skipper Adam Carr, who was out through injury, the visitors found themselves on a powerplay and took full advantage with Leigh Jamieson scoring when the game was only eight minutes old.

Michael Farn doubled Lightning's advantage early in the second, but just 45 seconds later Bison scored.

The balance of power shifted in the final period, as Basingstoke bagged two goals in 27 seconds, and they took full advantage of a five-on-three powerplay three minutes into the final period.

Lightning's Monir Kalgoum scored with only 50 seconds on the clock, but victory was a step too far.

MK Lightning 3
Slough Jets 4

TWENTY four hours later it was a similar story as they ended their final league game with a 4-3 home defeat despite building a three-goal lead.

Lightning initially looked as though they might finally beat Slough this season, with Andre Smulter unlucky not to score twice before he set up Leigh Jamieson to fire the puck over the keeper's shoulder at 8:50, and Slough rarely troubling the Lightning goal.

Only four minutes into the second period a long-range Lukas Zatopek rocket doubled the home advantage and Nick Poole's team found themselves 3-0 up 30 seconds later.

The visitors scored a short-handed goal on 33:05, and went into the second period break with only a one goal deficit after another soon after.

Slough's equaliser came less than three minutes into the final period when Lightning failed to clear the puck after an attack.

A goalless overtime period meant penalties were needed to decide who took the two points, but unsuccessful shots from three Lightning imports meant Slough supporters went home on a high.

■ Lightning take on Basingstoke again in the two-leg EPL Play-Off quarter final this weekend, with home advantage on Saturday with a 7pm face-off. The second leg will be played in Basingstoke at 5.30pm on Sunday.

Sin-binned Olney captain sees advantage slip

RUGBY

Olney 17
Marlow 23

ON A bitterly cold afternoon, the game commenced at a high tempo.

The game had some strong phases being played by both sides, and it was Marlow's winger that scored the first try. Olney's Liam Lancaster then made a strong run from half way, brushing off the visitors as he scored a great try, which was not converted for 5-7.

Both the visiting supporters and home crowd were not disappointed when the Marlow centre scored an easy try from the back of a ruck, before Olney's fly half Mark Marwood sliced through the Marlow defence and converted his try, taking the score to 12-12.

The second half continued much of the same with Marlow having more possession than the home side, but Olney looking close to score whenever in attack.

Olney lost captain Chris Parnham to the sin bin, and Marlow were able to take advantage as they converted the penalty and scored a try from the back of a scrum.

Olney went over one more time, but failed to convert some late pressure.

■ Olney face Witney on April 9, then the final league game of the season at home against Buckingham on April 16.

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Double blow for Lightning – page 83

Dons' boss urges players to stop Saints marching on

KARL Robinson has urged his players to embrace the challenge of taking on Southampton on Saturday, saying they need to get results at stadiums like St Mary's if they want to move up the football pyramid.

The Saints sit one place above MK Dons in League One's fourth spot by virtue of a superior goal difference. Both clubs are aiming to ply their trade in the Championship next season but the Milton Keynes boss believes his men can complete the double over Nigel Adkins' side and chalk up their seventh win in nine games.

"It's always nice to take a scalp but we will go there and believe we can win the game," said Robinson.

"If we want to be in the Championship or the Premiership then we've got to go to these places and perform.

"We are looking forward to going to Southampton as we've beaten them once and we are going to beat them again."

Losing just once in the last 14 outings has propelled Dons to the top of the League One form charts just behind runaway leaders Brighton. And despite the 1-1 home draw against Walsall on Friday ending a five-game winning streak, Robinson still has his sights set on automatic promotion.

"We set our stall out at the end of last season to go up automatically and I'm not going to divert from that," he said. "Everyone knows out budget is 13 or 14th [in the league] but we just believe in ourselves that we can really achieve something. With that togetherness, even if we fall short, at least we'll have a right good go at it."

After missing the draw on Friday, the Dons boss is hopeful of seeing Keanu Marsh-Brown return to the bench and said that the rest of his squad have a clean bill of health for the trip to Southampton.

On top Down Under

Sebastian Vettel blasts his way to Oz GP win – see page 83

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Closing times may vary, please see zsl.org for details. Closed Christmas Day.

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Signposted from the M1 (J9 northbound & J12 southbound) and all major roads.

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For Green Line services from London Victoria to Luton and Hemel Hempstead please call 0870 608 7261.

For bus services from Luton, Hemel Hempstead and St Albans call Traveline on 0871 200 22 33 (calls from landlines cost 10p per minute) or visit traveline.info

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